

On the Third Thursday on every November

Casa Tua Barcelona uncorks Beaujolais Nouveau 2009



ORANJESTAD - Casa Tua Barcelona threw a huge party to welcome the Beaujolais Nouveau of 2009! The restaurant was transformed into the famous square 'Place du Tertre' in Paris. This square known for its charm, its artists, painters and street performers came to live inside the restaurant. Art painter Eduardo walked down the tables drawing caricatures of the guests ending up with great compliments and the typical French can-can dancers threw their legs up so high we were all afraid they would injure themselves.

The menu was a selection

Barcelona's brand new menu. Appetizer choices were Escargots Bourgogne, snails served in a delicious sauce, or Steak Tartare, raw diced beef tenderloin prepared with capers, egg yolks and pickles. As the main course Chef Jacques prepared a mouth-watering Boeuf Bourguignon, a typical French dish which was sold out real soon! Ballotine de Grouper was the fish choice. This Grouper fillet stuffed with crab meat could be a new Island's favorite. Chef Jacques overdid himself on the Tarte Tatin, the upside down apple pie which was the sweetest ending for everyone! All with Edit Piaff and other French artists as back ground music.

The place was chakin' up as soon as 'dressed to kill' Angela Croes started her performance with her wonderful voice! Nice detail was the celebration of 3 separate birthdays that night: Andrew from Louis Vuitton, Nataly from ATA and Mrs. Lobato.

The large virgin canvas didn't stay white for long. A number



of guests but also owner Victor Nataf, started painting like their lives were depending on it! You can see the result

with your visit to Casa Tua Barcelona to join their next event or to taste their 'new born' menu items! □



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US\$ 76.65

↓0.81

A Friends of Arion & Que Pasa Restaurant special

No Wimps allowed at Ravenswood / Que Pasa dinner



ORANJESTAD - Wimps are not allowed at the upcoming Ravenswood/Que Pasa Restaurant dinner, which is held on November 27. The wimps in question refer to the Ravenswood winery's slogan 'No Wimpy Wines', which has been translated into more than thirty languages, among them in Papiamentu (Biña sin Berguënza). No, we're just joking: actually,

everyone is invited to the three-course extravaganza at Que Pasa Restaurant in the Wilhelminastraat. Wimps especially! Dinner is a combination of all-time favorites; including fabulous Ravenswood wines. The first course is an amazing array of delicacies, consisting of goat cheese mousse with a honey glaze, shrimp filled with wahoo and a carpaccio

of smoked Black Angus. The above is accompanied by half a glass Ravenswood Vintners Blend Chardonnay and half a glass of the Ravenswood Vintners Blend Merlot. The main course is either sirloin steak to go with a Ravenswood Vintners Blend Zinfandel, California or grouper. A Ravenswood Chardonnay Sonoma perfectly enhances the grouper, which is served with a celery puree. Dessert is a jelly of fruits and sangria, vanilla soup and papaya ice cream with coffee. Annemarie and Stijn and their team, chefs Dennis Hoekstra, Secco Li and Ard Slot are greatly looking forward to this special 'wimpyless' evening. This is the second evening at Que Pasa for the Friends of Arion, wine lovers and gourmards. The first one was held last year: it was a fabulous success. □



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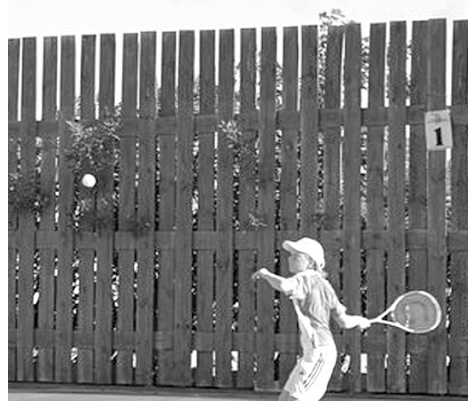
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Jr. Tennis Cup 2009 Competition begins at the Aruba Racquet Club



island, enjoyed the registration of over 130 budding tennis stars, ages 6 to 18.

Two events to look forward to are the mini tennis on Saturday morning, at 11 a.m. and the final games on Saturday after 4 p.m.

The PriceWaterhouseCoopers 7th annual Jr. Tennis Cup 2009 will host the closing ceremony with awards, immediately after the final games.

Trophies will be presented by a PriceWaterhouseCoopers company representatives, just before the special party where all players will have an opportunity to network and exchange impressions of the past 3 days. The tournament venue, the Aruba Racquet Club, posts most information on line at: www.arc.aw; information may also be solicited at Tel.: +297-593 6263. □



ORANJESTAD
-The 7th annual PriceWaterhouseCoopers Junior Tennis Tournament, organized by Jorge Sanchez, of Sanchez Tennis Services, and generously sponsored by the firm's Aruba branch, started on Thursday afternoon at the Aruba Racquet Club. The tournament, the biggest event in junior tennis on the



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Saturday \$25 Buy-in

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Evangelist Howard Chappell

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Bring Your Bible



Duo birthday celebrations at Gari & Wasabi



PALM BEACH — Some categorize Friday the 13th as a day that the worst things can happen, but other like Orlando Anaya and Phillip Hesse saw the contrary of it and celebrated together their birthday. Orlando not a stranger to the night life scene, he has worked as manager at



some of Aruba's hottest night clubs and Phillip well know as a local party boy and the son

of one of Aruba well know attorney's joined together and celebrated their birthday party at Gari & Wasabi Sushi lounge.

Gari & Wasabi being the hottest sushi lounge on the Island and the only one of it's kind being a fusion between Caribbean and Japanese cuisine, hosted these 2 birthday boys. With ever flowing champagne and endless sushi trays all their friends enjoyed the night away and nothing was left for the imagination. And to top of the night a brass band group filled the parking playing for one and all as a grand finale. Some says this was yet the most creative and fun birthday party yet of the year. □



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At T.H. Palm & Company

Tikkun Olam is Action



PALM BEACH – T.H. Palm & Company, a store dedicated to Fun Island Living, located at the Playa Linda Beach Resort donates 2% of every sale to support one of Aruba's local charities, under its Tikkun Olam program.

In the words of the ancient Kabala, Tikkun Olam is the ongoing effort to repair the world and do good, whereby T.H. Palm & Company has been helping the island's community with much-needed funds for charity, since December 2008, thinking globally and acting locally.

This week checks were delivered to Kibrahacha, a day-center for the elderly. Coordinator Diana Uchtmann, and administrator Jeffrey Matos, received the funds with gratitude. At the Queen Wilhelmina Cancer

Fund volunteers Carmen Maduro, and director Lily Prince, accepted the check with great appreciation. At the foundation for abused women, Hende Muher den Difficultad, social worker apprentice Nadine Murray, and coordinator Yvette Emanuel, received the donation which will help families in crisis find shelter. The Edmund Harms Foundation providing hospice-care for the terminally ill, was thankful, as Juliska Harms took the check earmarked to help subsidize home-care for the dying.

Two more island foundations received donations from T.H. Palm & Company via its parent company Salamander Holdings NV, namely Telephone Pa Huventud, operating a telephone help-line for kids and teens and

the local home for children Imeldahof, providing foster care to children ages 6-18 since 1954!

Donations, says Managing Director Jodi Tobman, are paid out quarterly and substantial donations were made over the year. Jodi is confident that next year the public will continue to be generous, helping the island's not-for-profit foundations, and giving back to the community. □



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Human Hints Daily

Fountain of Mental Youth

The true potential of the Human brain has just begun to be considered. Our brain is a tool our spirits use to generate the hologram we call life, so it is important that we keep it as healthy as possible. Modern Brain Science has just begun to discover new ways for us to stimulate the brain throughout our lives, possibly causing it to remain young and healthy. Brain Science has discovered that the brain is plastic, malleable, and is shaped by our thoughts, actions and experiences. It gets used to what it is familiar with, supporting both good and bad habits.

Give Us 231 Minutes, And We'll Show You A Scientifically Proven, Step By Step System That Only Takes 10 Minutes Per Day... That Can Fully Activate The 'SUPER-CONSCIOUS' Part Of Your Brain To — Uncover Amazing Natural Talents And Abilities — That You Didn't Even Know You Had... ...So You Can Unlock Your In-Built Photographic Memory, Go Way Beyond Speed Reading And 'Photograph' Books At Over 25,000+ Words Per Minute (That's Over 100 Times The Average Reading Speed) ...Store Every Single Word In Your Long Term Memory, 'For LIFE', So You Simply

Cannot Forget It... Plus Dramatically Reduce Stress And Become Much More Effective, Organised And Efficient At The Same Time!

For any task, thought or experience, neurons fire in a pattern. Thoughts, actions and experiences create specific neural patterns in the brain. With conscious practice, the pattern becomes more refined, and we get better at something, or we understand something more clearly. After a while, the neural patterns become familiar and a task becomes second nature. We don't have to think about what we're doing, it just comes naturally, the neural patterns

are well ingrained.

This is also true of our thought and emotional patterns, which become ingrained at an early age, setting the emotional foundation for the rest of our lives. Which leads us to the possible Fountain of Mental Youth.

Unlock the amazing potential of your mind...100% money back guarantee. This works. Underground Secret Testing Lab Reveals: Most people use less than 2% of their total brain capacity... So what are you doing with YOUR other 98%? ...If you want to activate your Natural Photographic Memory... Tap into your 'Inner Genius'... and discover how to Learn at the Speed of Light

Brain Science has found that the act of learning actually keeps our brains young. As children, we are always learning things, practicing, improving. After we settle into a career, family, daily routine, we stop learning. We become comfortable with what we know, and new neural patterns are not formed. Modern Brain Science says that if we continue to learn throughout our lives, our brains will always be challenged by creating new neural patterns, and they will stay healthy for an eternity.

If we aren't challenged on a daily basis, we don't grow, our minds and lives become stagnant. Learning

is the purpose of life. In a very real sense, when we stop learning, we die. Brain Science says that learning creates a healthy brain, which in turn expresses a confident, capable, vibrant, eager, intelligent person.

The brain needs to be cared for and exercised for the long-term, just like the body. Healthy food and physical exercise are also very important for a healthy brain, but those are topics for another day.

Until Next Week...

~Quentin Danziger

Quentin has over 20 years experience balancing what we refer to as the Real World, with science and spirit. He has held positions of responsibility and authority, received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics from Colorado School of Mines, and been in the audience of new age channels. HumanHints is the culmination of his knowledge, experience and practice. These free daily emails detail concrete, real-world techniques to consciously create any future you choose, while in the throes of daily life created by outdated modes of thought.

PO Box 997, Vail, CO, 81658, USA

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Member

The Tumescant Liposculpture presentation will be repeated in Aruba

Due to public demand

ORANJESTAD

After a very successful presentation 2 months ago, you are cordially invited to attend a night of information on **Tumescant Liposculpture**.

If you have unwanted fat, despite dieting and exercise, Tumescant Liposculpture is the solution!

It's the safest way because the procedure is done under local anesthesia and recovery time is remarkable, within 1 week!

This time we will be donating all benefits to **Fundacion pa Hende Muher den dificultad** (Centre for abused women)

Tickets are available for Afl. 25,00 at the office at **Cumana 92**.

Program

Dr. Harold Narain, Gynaecologist will be hosting the presentation.

Place: Aruba Surf Side Marina

Date: Monday 23rd November, 2009

Time: 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm

- **Siomara Everon** will also be there to share her Experience with you.
- **Diana Velasquez** of Body Magic, will give you information on post-operative Lipo-Massage
- **Niurca de Cuba** will give you a short Zumba demonstration.
- **Enith Sivo** will talk to you about Nutricion.

Please pass by our office for your tickets at Cumana 92.

For more information feel free to call: **583-5993**

See you there!

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Ask about the Early Bird Menu from 4 PM to 6:30 PM



Fishes & More specialize in fresh fish and seafood, and at the same time please the non-fish lovers as well. All the dishes are prepared a la minute by an internationally experienced kitchen team, which gives the twist to our dishes. Influences from all over the world are found back

on the menu and they are already well known for our daily changing specials. If you have a large party, or if there is anything you feel like in particular, Fishes & More can always arrange to have your dinner cooked just for you, as they work only with fresh and honest

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Ideally located in front of the Occidental Resort (Former Allegro), they are visited both by individuals and families alike, as we have a kids playground and a kids menu to entertain them, so they can enjoy their

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See what its like to experience real fresh dining joy with a twist!

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Experience authentic regional ambiance every Friday evening at Pam-Pam Café



Pam-Pam Café, located in the charming Perle D'Or Resort in Bubali, is the place to be on Friday evenings for a great taste of regional music, dance, food and hospitality, as proprietors and hosts Nico and Monique van de Borne welcome guests for their weekly "Latin Night."

Pam-Pam Café is situated in a delightful tropical setting that is the perfect backdrop for a show by 2002 World Salsa Champions Janice and Oslin Boekhoudt, who run their Pachanga Dance School

out Perle D'Or. They and their dance troupe put on a show of the exotic Zouk, originating from the French islands of Guadeloupe and Martinique, and inspiration for the Brazilian Lambada. If their sensual movements inspire any audience members, they can sign up at Pam-Pam for private dance lessons from the Pachanga crew, which also teach Salsa and Merengue.

In addition to the island music and dance, reasonably prices snacks (10.50 in Aruban florins (\$6) for an Assorted Snack Platter or Buffalo Wings among

other choices) and cocktails are available throughout the evening. From 11 PM until closing time, Pam-Pam offers a special on top shelf whiskey for only 6 Aruban

florins (\$3.50)

If you are looking for the "real deal" in Caribbean entertainment and ambiance and a chance to rub elbows with islanders, schedule Pam-Pam Café as your Friday night entertainment!

Pam Pam restaurant

First-time patrons will be pleasantly surprised by an appealing a la carte menu that is quite affordably priced, and main courses, (25) which are priced between \$13 / \$22.

Pam-Pam's house specialty is a unique method of preparation, which presently,

in Aruba, is found only at their establishment and which they have dubbed their "Gourmet Meal." A grill and a collection of the freshest of ingredients for the various dishes ordered are assembled tableside, and patrons prepare the food themselves, controlling their preference of seasonings and garnishes, along with degree of doneness, providing a unique and personal taste treat. It is suggested that reservations for this singular dining experience be made one day in advance.

When you want to see restaurants menu, visit: www.visitaruba.com Phone; 5877710 or 5932660



PALM BEACH – Both the Levitin Group, sharing their passion for the hospitality industry and brushing up on their product knowledge and



sales skills. The training took place at the Divi Phoenix and was also attended by Rossi Wauben, Divi Golf, and Christy Garrido, Divi Phoenix who are the executives at the helm of both sales organizations. The Levitin Group brought Kent Kozimor, Director of Communications, Carlo Ramos, VP of International



Sales, conductor Joe McGriff and RCI's Account Executive Cherie Jeffreys to the island, to share from their vast



experience with the Divi Aruba teams. The custom designed training program they delivered consisted of productive, high-energy sessions, interactive and experiential exercises, role

plays, case studies, games and contests, student workbooks, DVD video clips, PowerPoint presentation and handouts.



Pictured here the Divi winning strategies, which Resort Sales & Marketing Teams empowered with they employed the following day, in the field, with great new skills, fresh ideas and results.



Don't miss our Plentiful Paella! *A dinner under the Caribbean sky!*

Las Ramblas
Tapas & Charcoal Grill

The menu features authentic spanish tapas and entrees such as delicious Seafood Paella, USDA Beef Tenderloin & New Zealand Lamb Chops from the charcoal grill.

Open from 6.00pm - 10.30pm. Closed on Sundays and Wednesdays.
Reservation recommended
For reservation call 520-1100 ext. 6154

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Thanksgiving Buffet at La Vista Restaurant
Thursday November 26th 2009
5.00 PM - 10.30 PM

Soup
Roasted Pumpkin Bisque

Pasta Station
Fettuccini, Linguini, Farfalle, Shrimp, Scallops, Clams, Mussels
Roasted Vegetables, Grilled Chicken

Carving Station
Rosemary and Garlic Spiked Prime Rib w/ Sauce au Jus
Honey Glazed Ham with Cinnamon- Pineapple Sauce

Pizza Station
Assorted Homemade Pizzas

Entrees
Slow Roasted Turkey w/ Sage Dressing and Giblet Gravy
Mahi Mahi with Papaya Salsa
Pumpkin Ravioli
Candied Sweet Potatoes
Roasted Garlic Mashed Potatoes
Honey Glazed Carrots and Green Beans

Dessert Station
Chocolate Mousse, Pecan, Apple & Pumpkin Pie,
Pineapple Upside down Cake, Double Fudge Brownies, Chocolate Dipped Cookies,
Bread Pudding w/ Grand Mariner Crème Anglaise & Quesito



\$48.00 per person
Children 6- 12 \$24.00
Children 0-5 eat free

La Vista Restaurant is located at the Aruba Marriott Resort & Casino (Hotel). No reservation is needed.



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Fall Festival at L.G. Smith's Steak & Chop House



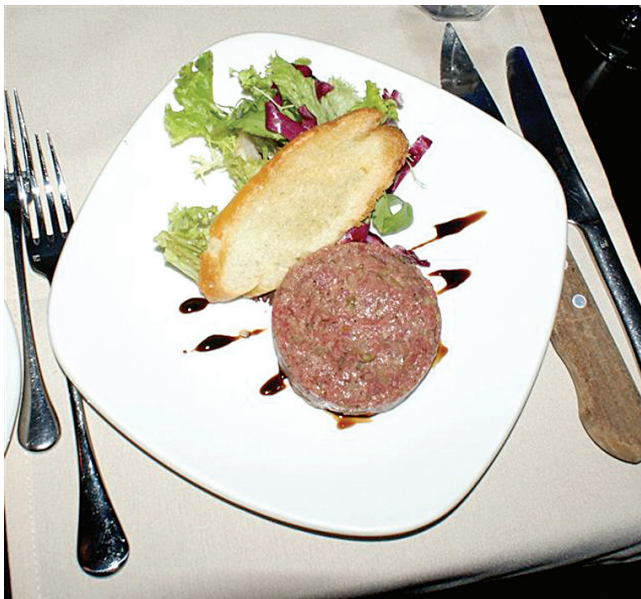
ORANJESTAD – The L.G. Smith's Steak & Chop House is serving a special fall menu, featuring spectacular dishes created by celebrity chef Peter Vaulty, and the restaurant's own Executive Chef Michael Gomez. Vaulty, co-owner of Red, the steakhouse in South Beach, Miami, Florida, and two restaurants is Cleveland, Ohio, Moxie, the restaurant, and Red, the Steakhouse,

served as guest chef for the Fall Festival, invited by Certified Angus Beef, the brand, to help orchestrate the festivities in Aruba, at the heart of town steak & chop house, located at the Renaissance Marina Resort. The special menu boasts a variety of contemporary classic appetizers, such as Warm Peppers stuffed with home-made Italian sausage, Oysters

Rockefeller and Steak Tartar, made of Certified Angus Beef Prime tenderloin, and Apple Salad with bibb lettuce and Westfield Farms goat cheese. As entrée, diners will be tempted by Steak Alla Oscar with fresh Alaska King Claws now in season, or dry-aged Prime Stripsteak blackened with charred pineapple or a cold-smoked Rack of Pork, accompanied by two seasonal

sides of their choice. Ensuring the ultimate in dining excellence, the beef dishes featured are all Certified Angus Beef brand Prime, representing less than 1% of all US beef production. Also sure to please, the desserts which include a Double Dip Crème Brulee with chocolate mousse, Banana Cream Pie and Fresh & Hot Dounuts with raspberry jam. Each of the fall menu dishes, from appetizers to desserts, is accompanied by a special wine suggestion, available by the glass or bottle. To introduce the suggested wines, the restaurant recently held a wine tasting for its waiters and kitchen staff,

introducing them to a selection of wines from Ravenswood Winery in Sonoma, California. Laura Hayes led the tasting of Ravenswood's full-flavored varietal wines, including a delicious Zinfandel, with the popular TV show Trend Alert filming the event. Celebrity, fourth-generation wine grower Eric Wente, of Wente Wineries was in Aruba to conduct a special wine tasting with staffers and invited guests, as her stopped on the island, while on a Caribbean cruise mid-October. Patrons are invited to savor the sizzlin' fall steakhouse menu for a prix fixe and reservations are suggested. □



Justice Minister attends BTA town hall meeting

PHILIPSBURG--Antillean Justice Minister Magali Jacoba fielded questions from undocumented persons in English, Spanish and Creole about applying for temporary residence and requesting special permits, at a town hall meeting Wednesday.

Nationals of Haiti and the Dominican Republic volleyed questions about the Brooks Tower Accord (BTA) at the minister, police, Executive Council members, and Haitian and Dominican Republic Consuls for more than three hours.

The minister had presented temporary permits to Yles St. Come and Du Qun Wu about an hour earlier, the first for the

Antilles since the BTA went into effect on November 3.

Questions were asked about the legalisation programme's consideration for people who had migrated through different islands in the Netherlands Antilles, among other situations, and whether leaving the country had disqualified them.

Dominican Republic Consul Doris Elsa Vasquez-Martinez applauded the session, calling it an eye-opener for her countrymen, but lamented the fact that public forums and talks about the BTA hadn't taken place sooner. She said she was "a little worried" and that "[the time is] short, and now is when people are

getting the information."

"The perception is changing. Today, everyone present has become better informed after this," she said Thursday through translator Melvin Rosario. But "it would have been different if the information had come before."

Haiti's Consul could not be reached for comment.

Rosario said more than 200 persons had sought the consulate's help in obtaining their BTA permits—documents that guarantee the holders one year of legal residence in the Netherlands Antilles.

Consulates kept news of the meeting quiet, telling only their nationals through word-of-mouth and special-language radio and other programmes that Jacoba would be taking questions about the BTA on

Wednesday. Nevertheless, more than 200 packed the Philipsburg Cultural and Community Centre and lined the walls inside, listening to conversations in three different languages.

Jacoba said many questions had been too specific to answer at the session, but she had been able to clarify some worries about persons who had not stayed in the same place. Persons who had moved from one Antillean island to another within the BTA eligibility period and those who had left the Antilles for fewer than nine months still qualified, the minister said.

She referred questions relating to one or two persons to the BTA steering group, assembled to evaluate special cases during the Brooks Tower

Accord period, which ends on December 15. Everyone who has been living here since before 2006 should have either received his or her residence permit or registered for it by then. Only persons who have been here since before December 31, 2001, or who arrived between January 1, 2002, and December 31, 2005, qualify.

Only 36 residents who applied in the first week have been granted permits, but another 874 persons have requested permits since the start.

Rosario talks undocumented persons through the process in the afternoons during the BTA period from 4:00 to 10:00pm and on Saturdays from 8:00am to 10:00pm.

He works at the consulate on Emmaplein. □

Carty: Give staff help with BTA applications

PHILIPSBURG--St. Maarten Chamber of Commerce and Industry President Glen Carty is calling on businesses to assist their undocumented workers with the documentation they need to become legal residents under the Brooks Tower Accord (BTA).

Carty, who met with Antillean Justice Minister Magali Jacoba on Thursday, said he was surprised that businesses were not making use of the opportunity to help their workers become legal. He said the Chamber had been informed that some establishments were reluctant to assist their workers with the documentation they needed to apply for temporary residence permits, such as copies of their pay slips.

He said he had been assured that there would be no sanctions against businesses whose undocumented workers went through the BTA process.

Carty, a proponent giving of St. Maarteners and Antilleans first preference for employment in St. Maarten, noted that many businesses usually contended that immigrant labour was needed.

"That is why when I am hearing that many businesses were not assisting their employees who are working in their establishments ... I was somewhat surprised," he told reporters at a press conference, co-hosted by the Minister.

He said the number of persons who had applied for permits so far, compared to the number of undocumented persons estimated to be living here, was "shocking."

Jacoba had said recently that some 40,000 persons were estimated to be living in St. Maarten illegally.

Businesses were advised to make use of the opportunity to have their employees regulate their status, because authorities will clamp down on undocumented residents throughout the Netherlands Antilles from March 2010.

"Please take advantage of this process; you need your employees. You tell us that you need the work force for your business to be successful. Get it done now," Carty said. "In March [2010] there will be sanctions. There will be Immigration checks and at that time the Chamber will not be there to assist any business that did not document its employees."

Implementation of the accord, which grants temporary residence to undocumented persons who meet certain criteria, is in its third week. □



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About 4,000 businesses have no CRIB number

~ That's 'shocking', says Carty ~

PHILIPSBURG--About 4,000 active businesses registered at the St. Maarten Chamber of Commerce and Industry have no identifying CRIB numbers at the Inspectorate of Taxes, Chamber President Glen Carty said Thursday. He told reporters that of the 7,500 active businesses registered at the Chamber, only 3,500 had CRIB numbers at the tax department.

He said this information from the tax office was "shocking," and called on all delinquent businesses to obtain their CRIB numbers and start living up to their obligation to pay

taxes. "It is time that the 3,500 businesses that are paying taxes stop carrying the burden by themselves and for every business on this island to also carry their responsibility in this society," he said.

He said the Chamber would meet with the Inspectorate of Taxes to "compare notes" and identify the businesses without CRIB numbers.

"It is very unfair that 3,500 businesses that pay taxes carry the brunt for the entire business community," Carty stressed. □

St. Maarten budget submitted on time

PHILIPSBURG - - The National Alliance (NA)/Heyligher Government did not miss Wednesday's final deadline for the submission of the 2010 budget to the Committee for Financial Supervision CFT.

The budget was sent via e-mail by the Finance Department to CFT around midday Wednesday but due to the large size of the file, transmission took about three hours, interim Director of Resources Hiro Shigemoto told The Daily Herald Thursday.

He further explained that after the file was sent an error was noticed sometime after so the 400-plus page fiscal document was resent.

CFT also sent confirmation to the department that the file was received in good order Wednesday afternoon.

Shigemoto said that as an extra precaution, the budget was broken into two smaller files Thursday morning and resent to CFT but there was really no need for that as the large file had already been received.

When CFT was contacted by

this newspaper Wednesday, the budget had not yet been received. Also, there was no word about the submission of the budget from Finance Commissioner Xavier Blackman despite repeated attempts to get in touch with him.

Blackman, the Finance and other government departments were hard pressed to deliver a balanced budget as required by the new more stringent laws on financial supervision. A deficit of some NAf. 50 million had to be evened out. □

Dutch to help with setting up departments for new country

PHILIPSBURG--St. Maarten will begin receiving technical assistance from the Netherlands as early as the end of this month to help with the setting up of several departments and agencies en route to country status.

Constitutional Affairs Commissioner William Marlin and Programme Manager for Country St. Maarten Dennis Richardson recently laid the groundwork in the Netherlands as a follow up to the June 24 agreement between the Dutch government and St. Maarten.

During Wednesday's Executive Council Press Briefing Marlin outlined some areas in which assistance will be rendered and where significant progress has already been made.

Marlin said that government in the past kept saying to the Dutch government "Give us the responsibilities, we are ready." The National Alliance-led government's approach is "Give us the responsibilities. The people of St. Maarten voted to become country, so the responsibility is mine, but we are not equipped to carry out those responsibilities."

Marlin continued: "No preparation has been made and it was difficult to make them if you did not have the necessary funding to do so."

The Central Government is cooperating to establish certain departments and to appoint the necessary personnel but it is still expected of St. Maarten to recruit the personnel and pay their salaries.

"St. Maarten does not have the infrastructure in place from a smooth transition [to country within the Dutch Kingdom] like Curaçao or the BES" islands (Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba), he said. Curaçao will inherit the well-developed Central Government infrastructure and personnel while the BES islands will be administrated by the Netherlands.

It can be argued that St. Maarten is entitled to half of the Central Government apparatus and personnel but it is not practical "to cut a building in half and ship it to St. Maarten." This leaves the island to build or rent new offices for departments and agencies that will not fall directly under the core of government functions.

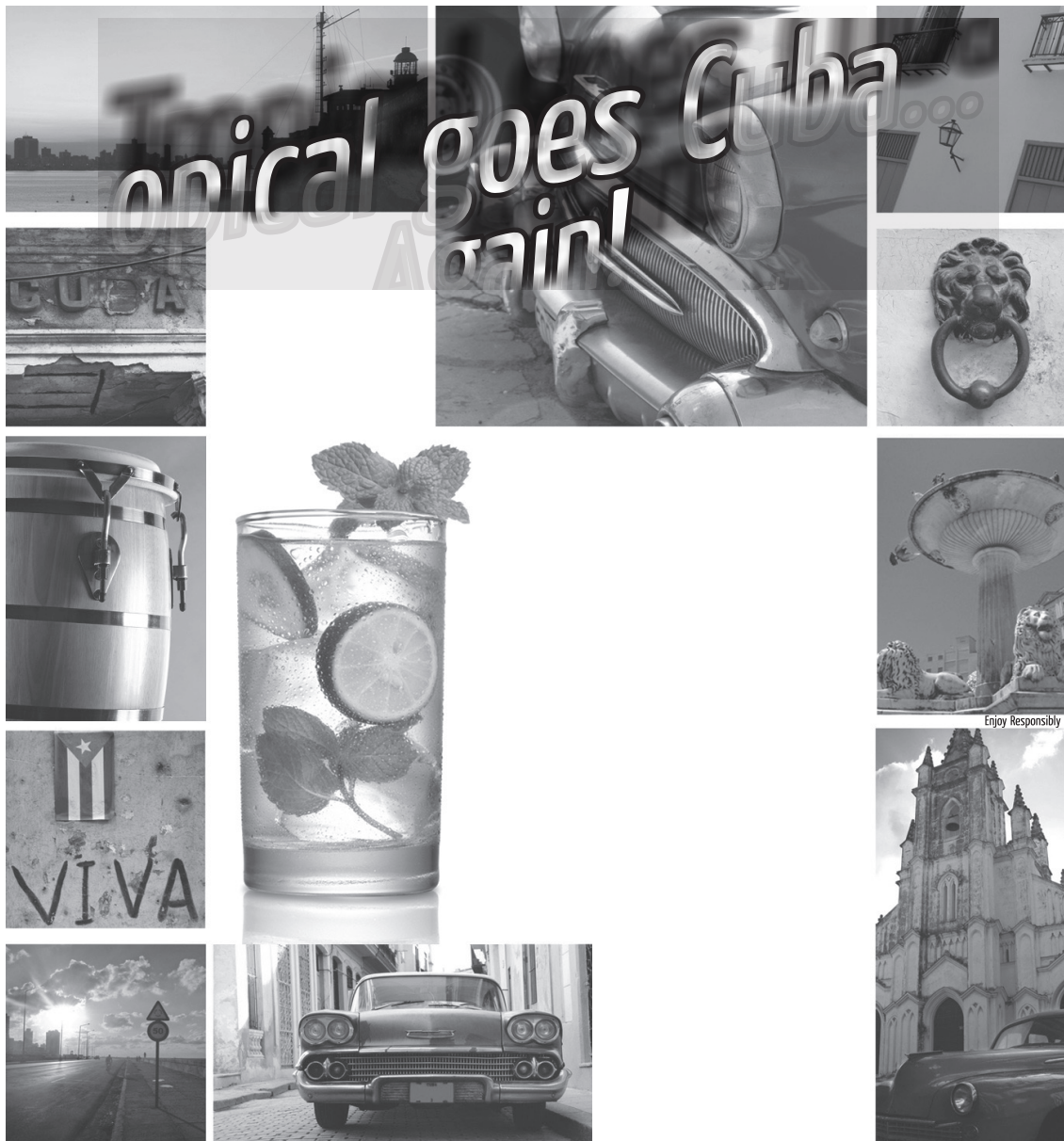
And in the case of personnel, the commissioner said that for example the Civil Aviation Department is optimally staff and when taken over by Curaçao all workers will be needed to run that operation. "Therefore, St. Maarten has to go out and recruit and train [needed personnel] by 10-10-10."

Recruiting needed personnel is one part of the puzzle with the other being the finances to set up the agencies and pay salaries. St. Maarten, with a significant portion of its revenues still going to the Central Government as well as the financial constraints of the island government, is also expecting the Dutch Government, based on the June agreement, to provide financial support for the experts brought in.

Work on establishing the General Audit Chamber for St. Maarten could start as early as January. The Netherlands will send people to "work closely" with St. Maarten to assess what is needed and to identify people to staff the chamber, Marlin said.

Similarly, Dutch assistance will be given to ascertain whether the island will set up a meteorological service. A quick scan will be carried out in this area by the end of the year to see what is needed to set up the service in January if this is the direction government chooses to go.

Assistance will also be given for the setting up of the Foreign Affairs Bureau as this is a department of the Central Government that was completely built on Curaçao. The Dutch Bureau is willing to send people to St. Maarten to help in training and in the setting up of the department here. □



BUSINESS

Aruba TODAY

Stocks fall for 3rd day as dollar strengthens



Traders wait for the IPO of Chinese discount hotel chain 7 Days Group Holdings Ltd as officers of the company ring the opening bell (above) at the New York Stock Exchange, November 20, 2009. Shares of Chinese discount hotel chain 7 Days Group Holdings Ltd jumped as much as 28.6 percent in their New York Stock Exchange debut on Friday.

By STEPHEN BERNARD
and TIM PARADIS,
AP Business Writers

NEW YORK — The stock market lost ground for a third straight day as investors grew uneasy about a rising dollar and spiking demand for the safest government debt.

A disappointing earnings report from computer maker Dell Inc. weighed on technology shares Friday and hurt the Nasdaq composite index.

Demand for safe havens rose following Dell's report and as European Central Bank President Jean-Claude Trichet said the ECB plans to start reining in some of its stimulus programs.

Hiking borrowing rates could help keep inflation in check but could also slow improvement in the economy.

Investors seeking safety pushed into the dollar. A strengthening dollar curtails foreign demand for commodities, which are traded in dollars. It also can depress U.S. exports, which

REUTERS/Brendan McDermid become more expensive as the dollar rises.

The advancing dollar hurt energy and materials stocks, which are closely tied to commodities.

Investors looked for stable government investments.

The yield on the three-month T-bill, which moves opposite its price, fell to 0.01 percent from 0.02 percent late Thursday. It stands near its lowest level of the year, which it hit Thursday. Yields briefly turned negative Thursday as investors seeking to pad their portfolios with safe investments before the end of the year were willing to accept losses.

"Investors seem to need a constant reassurance with where we are in the economic recovery," said Brett D'Arcy, chief investment officer at CBIZ Wealth Management Group in San Diego. "We just haven't gotten it in the past few days."

In midday trading, the Dow Jones industrial average fell 37.93, or 0.4 percent, to

10,294.51. The Dow fell 105 points, or 1 percent, in the past two days.

The broader Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 5.53, or 0.5 percent, to 1,089.37, while the Nasdaq fell 17.58, or 0.8 percent, to 2,140.37.

The ICE Futures US dollar index, which measures the dollar against other major currencies, rose 0.5 percent. Demand for longer-term Treasuries fell, pushing yields higher. The yield on the benchmark 10-year note rose to 3.35 percent from 3.34 percent.

D'Arcy said he expected stocks would slide Friday because of economic numbers that arrived during the week.

Reports Wednesday and Thursday showing a drop in housing starts and a jump in mortgage delinquencies upended an advance that had been all but unbroken in November. Those figures brought worries that an economic recovery will be slow and bumpy.

Concerns about the pace of a recovery have dogged the market's eight-month rally but with the nation's unemployment rate now above 10 percent for the first time in 26 years and new worries about housing, some analysts say investors have raced too far ahead of a recovery in the economy.

Even if stocks can manage to climb in the final six weeks of the year, some traders are worried that there will be little to propel the market higher in 2010 if worries about jobs, housing and consumers don't ease.

Investors got the type of downcast news from Dell that suggests a recovery could be uneven. □



In this Nov. 17, 2009 photo, jars of Smucker's jelly are stacked on a shelf in the Heinen's grocery store in Bainbridge Twp., Ohio. J.M. Smucker said Friday, Nov. 20, its second-quarter profit more than doubled on growth from its Folgers acquisition and as consumers eat at home more.

(AP Photo/Amy Sancetta)

J.M. Smucker 2nd-quarter profit soars on coffee

By SARAH SKIDMORE,
AP Food Industry Writer

PORTLAND, Ore. — J.M. Smucker Co. nearly tripled its profit in the second quarter as the addition of Folgers coffee gave a jolt to its lineup and lower commodity prices fattened its profit margins.

The company also raised its outlook for the year, sending its shares soaring Friday.

Smucker — which makes products such as Jif peanut butter, Pillsbury frosting and its namesake jams and jellies — said it continues to benefit during tough times as consumers are eating at home more and placing greater emphasis on value.

The company, based in Orrville, Ohio, earned \$140 million, or \$1.18 per share, for the quarter, up sharply from \$51.5 million, or 94 cents per share, earned last year.

Excluding merger and integration costs related to Folgers, profit was \$1.22 per share.

Sales grew 52 percent to \$1.28 billion, helped significantly by coffee sales.

The performance topped the expectations of analysts polled by Thomson Reuters, who forecast a profit of \$1.04 per share on sales of \$1.24 billion.

Smucker purchased Folgers last year from Procter & Gamble, and the coffee segment's performance has exceeded expectations, Smucker's management said. In a sign of just how much Folgers has helped Smucker's results, the company said revenue was down 6 percent for the quarter when removing Folgers and a small effect from foreign currency translation.

Folgers and Dunkin' Donuts coffee drove the majority of the revenue and profit margin increases.

But the company said it saw volume of sales increase across much of its business, with increased popularity of its Pillsbury, Crisco, Jif, and Hungry Jack brands grew, partially offsetting decreases in canned milk, fruit spreads, and its food-service and natural-foods businesses. □

Oprah Winfrey says ending TV show "feels right"



Former Democratic presidential nominee and U.S. Vice President Al Gore appears with Oprah Winfrey on her television show while campaigning in Chicago, Illinois, in this September 11, 2000 file photo. Winfrey will end her TV chat show at the end of its 25th season in September 2011, her production company Harpo Inc said on November 19, 2009.

REUTERS/Larry Downing/Files

By Andrew Stern

CHICAGO (Reuters) – Oprah Winfrey said on Friday that she will end her popular TV show in 2011 because it “feels right in her bones” after 25 years, and urged viewers not to believe rumors of why she’s quitting.

“This show has been my life and I love it enough to know when it’s time to say goodbye. Twenty-five years feels right in my bones, and it feels right in my spirit. It’s the perfect number, the exact right time,” Winfrey said during Friday’s show at her Chicago studio.

Winfrey, 55, did not divulge her future plans. But her production company Harpo Inc. said in a statement that once production ends on “The Oprah Winfrey Show” in 2011, she “plans to appear and participate in new programming for OWN”, the Los Angeles-based cable TV venture she formed with Discovery Communications Inc.

Harpo said the launch date for OWN, or the Oprah Winfrey Network, which will be seen in more than 70 million homes, was now set for January 2011.

During her long career atop

the television talk show heap, Winfrey’s fluctuating weight and personal relationships have become tabloid fodder, and commentators have wondered whether she was tiring of the grind -- only to see her slim down and revive her show’s popularity.

“Over the next couple of days you may hear a lot of speculation in the press about why I am making this decision now, and that will mostly be conjecture,” she said.

Winfrey choked up once and wiped away a tear as she thanked viewers for having “graciously invited me into your living rooms, your kitchens and into your lives.

“So here we are, halfway through the season 24. And it still means as much to me to spend an hour every day with you as it did back in 1986,” she said.

Oprah delayed the 3-1/2-minute announcement until the end of the show. She began the show saying she would make an announcement at end, then went into a segment about a 5-year-old girl who was murdered and raped.

She then probed for personal details in interviews with

Gabby Sidibe, the star of the Winfrey-produced movie “Precious,” and comedian Ray Romano, who was promoting his new TV show about middle-aged men.

Her predominantly female audience gave her a standing ovation and then hugs when she stepped into the crowd.

“The Oprah Winfrey Show,” broadcast from Chicago on ABC stations across the United States and in more than 140 countries overseas, is one of the TV industry’s biggest money-makers. It is the top-rated U.S. daytime talk show, averaging 7.1 million viewers this year.

It has helped Winfrey, born in 1954 to a single mother in rural Mississippi, amass a fortune estimated by Forbes magazine at \$2.3 billion and anchored an entertainment empire that produces television talk shows, movies, and the style magazine O, the Oprah Magazine.

Winfrey, who also earned an Oscar nomination for her supporting role in the 1985 film “The Color Purple,” is considered a major opinion-maker in the United States. Her public backing of presidential candidate Barack Obama last year was considered a boost for the Democrat’s campaign. Her book and product choices have launched best-sellers and marketing bonanzas.

In a telling moment on the show, she noted Romano was at one time the best-paid actor on television and then told him: “I don’t make decisions based on money, and neither do you.”

Winfrey’s disarming style that endeared her to her viewers has encouraged such celebrities as Michael Jackson, Tom Cruise and Whitney Houston to unburden themselves on camera.

She promised more of the same in the coming 18 months, saying she and her staff will be “brainstorming new ways we can entertain you and inform you and uplift you when we return here in January” after a holiday hiatus. □



FILE - In this April 2, 2009 file photo, Miley Cyrus arrives at the premiere of ‘Hannah Montana the Movie’ in Los Angeles. (AP Photo/Matt Sayles, file)

Miley Cyrus tour bus overturns in Va., killing 1

By DENA POTTER,
Associated Press Writer

DINWIDDIE, Va. – One person was killed Friday when a tour bus belonging to entertainer Miley Cyrus overturned, but the 16-year-old “Hannah Montana” star wasn’t on board, Virginia State Police said.

Sgt. Thomas Molnar said the bus ran off the left side of Interstate 85, struck an embankment and overturned. The accident occurred around 8:15 a.m. in Dinwiddie County, about 40 miles south of Richmond. Speed and weather weren’t considered factors.

Molnar said the person who died at the scene was male, but didn’t identify him pending notification of family members. One of the other nine people on the bus suffered minor injuries and was taken to a local hospital. Police wouldn’t identify those aboard.

Molnar said the passengers exited the bus through the front windshield.

A wrecker arrived late Friday morning to haul away the black and maroon luxury tour bus, which was on its side in a ditch off the highway where it had apparently skidded for several hundred feet.

The bus was hauled by the wrecker up to the next exit off I-85, where two other tour buses and members of the tour were waiting. About two dozen members of the tour, some still wearing pajama bottoms, began transferring backpacks and laptops from the wrecked bus into two other buses parked outside a restaurant. They all declined to speak to reporters. Molnar said the bus was one of four traveling together after the singer’s two-show stint Wednesday and Thursday in Long Island, N.Y. The group was heading to Greensboro, N.C., where she is scheduled to perform Sunday.

Miley Cyrus is the daughter of country star Billy Ray Cyrus, who also appears on the family friendly Disney sitcom “Hannah Montana.” □

To Feel Better, Low-Fat Diet May Be Best

By Amanda Gardner
HealthDay Reporter

Both a high-fat, low-carbohydrate diet such as the popular Atkins program and a low-fat, high-carb diet appear to help people lose pounds over the course of a year.

But as for mood? Only the low-fat diets will result in long-term improvement in mood, according to a study in the Nov. 9 issue of Archives of Internal Medicine.

People on both diets consumed roughly the same number of calories.

"Both an energy-reduced, very low-carbohydrate, high-fat diet and a conventional high-carbohydrate, low-fat diet are equally effective for achieving weight loss in overweight and obese individuals," explained study author Grant D. Brinkworth, a research scientist with the food and nutritional sciences division of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation in Adelaide, Australia.

"Both dietary patterns also had similar effects on the cognitive domains assessed," which were working memory and speed of processing, Brinkworth added. "However, the conventional high-carbohydrate, low-fat weight-loss diet was shown to have more positive effects on mood compared to the very low-carbohydrate, high-fat diet."

Dr. Ewald Horvath, interim chairman of psychiatry at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, said the study was the first "to show both long-term weight loss and improved mood."

"This study looked at one factor, and prior studies haven't focused on psychological factors," Horvath said. "This is a great study focusing on something very important." Other studies have found short-term improvements in mood in people who lose weight on different diets. And the new study also found such improvements over the first eight weeks of dieting.

But few studies have looked at long-term mood changes among people who lose weight.

Health organizations, such as the American Heart Association, tend to advocate higher-carb, low-fat diets. But many

overweight and obese people are propelled toward the high-fat diets such as Atkins, "Livin' La Vida" and "Good Calories,

Bad Calories," perhaps because of quick initial weight loss, Horvath said.

For the new study, 106

overweight and obese adults, who averaged 50 years old, were randomly assigned to one of two diets -- a low-calorie,

low-carb, high-fat plan or a high-carb, low-fat diet -- for one year. Both diets restricted calories to about 1,433 to 1,672 a day.

A year later, average weight loss was about the same in each group: 30.2 pounds.

After the first eight weeks, participants in both groups showed mood improvements, but that lasted only in the low-fat group. After a year, the mood of those in the high-fat group returned to what it had been before they started dieting, the study found.

"The exact mechanism for the observed effects on mood still remains largely unknown," Brinkworth said. "However, if the mechanism for the return of mood toward more negative baseline levels following weight loss with a very low-carbohydrate diet is related to this diet being so far removed from normal dietary habits, then a very low-carbohydrate diet may be best recommended for individuals who habitually consume low amounts of carbohydrate foods in their diet."

More carbs can increase serotonin concentrations in the brain, whereas added fat and protein can reduce concentrations. Serotonin is a neurotransmitter involved in mood.

"Altered mood has been shown to influence interpersonal behavior and, therefore, the consumption of a very low-carbohydrate diet may have psychosocial consequences for interpersonal behavior and relationships," Brinkworth said. "I am not entirely clear as to the effects of mood on long-term weight loss; however a recent review article ... suggested that one of the factors that may pose risk for poor long-term weight maintenance may be 'eating in response to negative emotions and stress.'"

"Therefore, since negative mood may promote overeating, this suggests that consumption of a very low-carbohydrate diet over an even longer period beyond one year may have implications for maintaining dietary habits and weight loss maintenance," he added. "Further, longer-term studies would be required to confirm this." □

8 fat fighting foods

Combat fat! Your allies in battling bulge? Foods that do the work for you. These edibles have proven lipid-melting powers that help you slim. That's a win.

By Veronica Byrd



Almonds :

Almond joy! Dieters who ate 3 ounces of these nuts every day reduced their weight and body-mass index by a solid 18 percent compared with an 11 percent drop in the no-nut group, a study in the International Journal of Obesity found. Almonds are high in alpha-linolenic acid, which can speed the metabolism of fats. Stick to 12 per serving.



Berries:

Vitamin C-loaded fruit such as strawberries and raspberries can help you sizzle up to 30 percent more fat during exercise, suggests research from Arizona State University at Mesa. Blend a vinaigrette of 1 cup berries and ¼ cup balsamic vinegar.



Cinnamon:

This spice could make your waistline nice. Sprinkling ¼ teaspoon on your food may prevent a postmeal insulin spike—this increase normally occurs after you

eat and "signals the body that it should store fat rather than burn it," explains Lauren Slayton, R.D., of New York City. Add a dash to your oatmeal, yogurt or coffee.



Mustard:

Hello, yellow. The spice that gives mustard its color, turmeric, may slow the growth of fat tissues, a study in the journal Endocrinology notes. Eighty-six mayo in favor of any mustard; sprinkle turmeric on cauliflower and roast for a tangy side.



Oranges:

Prevent pound creep with this citrus star: It contains fat-torching compounds called flavones. Women who ate the most flavones had a significantly lower increase in body fat over a 14-year period, a study in the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition finds. Snack on slices or drink freshly squeezed OJ (with pulp!) for the biggest payback.



Soybeans:

These green gems are rich in choline, a compound that blocks fat absorption and breaks down fatty deposits. Add ½ cup edamame to a salad.



Sweet potatoes:

Trade up to sweet taters. They're high in fiber, which means no drastic insulin jumps and thus less fat packed onto your hips. Bake a small sweet potato—think of two bars of soap as a portion size—and top with a dollop of lowfat or nonfat cottage cheese.



Swiss cheese:

Holy cow: "Calcium-rich foods reduce fat-producing enzymes and increase fat breakdown," says Michael B. Zemel, Ph.D., director of the Nutrition Institute at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. Put toe to toe with some of its cheesy counterparts, Swiss is a heavy hitter in the calcium department; layer a slice on a lunchtime sandwich, or stack some on high-fiber crackers.

Bon Appetit

Catch your own dinner with Driftwood!

Motto at Driftwood Restaurant: "From the pier to your plate!"

ORANJESTAD - The downtown marina is home of **Driftwood Fishing Charters**, the successful fishermen of the established seafood restaurant **Driftwood** in Oranjestad.

Driftwood owner Herby Merryweather has a love and passion for fishing. A fisherman who knows about fish, what our local waters have to offer, and what the words



"fresh seafood" really mean. What Herby catches will be served in his restaurant on

the same day. Herby loves to share his fishing passion with the many visitors to the island. His fleet of a 35 ft. Twin Engine Bertram yacht and a 50 ft. Twin Engine Post yacht, appropriately called "Driftwood I and II, is available for charters on a daily basis from 8am to

Catch your own dinner

12 noon and from 1pm to 5pm. A charter includes: captain, mate, all fishing equipment, bait, sodas and bottled water. On a full day charter sandwiches and snacks are also included. You can call Herby directly at (297) 592 4040 or go to www.driftwoodaruba.com.

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PALM BEACH - The health and calorie conscious among us need fear steakhouses no more. Whether it's a low-carb, low-fat, or even vegetarian diet you follow, Texas de Brazil Churrascaria fits into just about every dieter's menu plan.

Low carb eaters will have all their expectations surpassed with a tempting carnivorous selection of umpteen cuts of sizzling beef, pork, lamb, sausage, and poultry. The meats are prepared in the healthiest style of cooking—slow roasting—where much of the fat drips off in the roasting process, so those looking for a lower fat option to sautéing, pan frying, or deep frying will also be able to indulge.

The Brazilian-style steakhouse also offers a garden full of healthy eats on a lavish 40-item seasonal salad bar, giving dieters plenty to choose from to accompany the

slow-roasted meats. A selection of fresh lettuces and vegetables may be standard for most salad bars, but **Texas de Brazil's** version goes a gourmet twist further, treating the palate to additional items like marinated portabella mushrooms, sweet roasted bell peppers, hearts of palm, sundried tomatoes, imported cheeses—including fresh buffalo mozzarella—sushi, home-made soups, and much more.

The salad bar is included in the continuous service meal with unlimited choices from the grilled meats, but for vegetarians or the non-meat eaters, a special price is offered for just the salad bar. Of course, for those looking to splurge while on vacation, **Texas de Brazil** will gladly serve their garlic mashed potatoes, traditional fried plantains, and their world-famous parmesan cheese bread as part of the meal.

Restaurant
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Monday - Sat 6 pm - 11
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For more information or to make reservations, please call 586-4686. ☐



INTERNATIONAL

BON DIA *Aruba* TODAY



On Top Of The News

Email: news@arubatoday.com

Saturday, November 21, 2009



Senate Minority Leader Sen. Mitch McConnell of Ky., center, shows copy of the Democratic health care reform bill during a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington, Friday, Nov. 20, 2009. From left are, Sen. Mike Enzi, R-Wyo., Sen. Lamar Alexander, R-Tenn., McConnell, Senate Minority Whip Jon Kyl of Ariz., Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, and Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas.

Associated Press

Moderate Dems pivotal in Saturday health care vote

By DAVID ESPO

AP Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON — Suitably opaque, Section 2006 takes up only a few dozen lines in a sweeping health care bill that runs to 2,074 pages and mentions neither Sen. Mary Landrieu nor her state of Louisiana.

But the section's purpose is indisputable: to deliver \$100 million or more in federal funds to the state.

And in the process clear the way for one of three moderate Democratic fence-sitters — Ben Nelson of Nebraska and Blanche Lincoln of Arkansas are the others — to help propel the legislation past its initial hurdle in a crucial Saturday vote.

Nelson, Landrieu and Lincoln emerged several days ago as the last public holdouts among 58 Democrats and two independents whose votes Majority Leader Harry Reid and the White House must have to overcome the Republicans' attempt to strangle the bill before serious debate can begin.

Each has moved carefully with an eye on home-state voters. And inside the Senate, each

has taken advantage of the political leverage newly available.

Alone among the three, Nelson issued a statement Friday ending any lingering public suspense about his intentions. "The Senate should start trying to fix a health care system that costs too much and delivers too little for Nebraskans," he said, adding his decision should not be seen as an indication of how he will vote on the legislation itself.

Nelson had been publicly signaling his intentions for more than a week, and his words presumably came as no surprise to Reid or the White House.

This sort of political minuet can be delicate, as shown when the Senate's second-ranking Democrat, Dick Durbin of Illinois, said earlier on Friday that Lincoln had already confided to Reid how she planned to vote.

Republicans, eager to scuttle the bill — and defeat Lincoln in 2010 — instantly accused the two-term senator of telling Democratic party leaders before informing her own constituents in Arkansas.

Continued on Page B4

Ethics committee says no punishment for Burris



In this Oct. 15, 2009 file photo, Sen. Roland Burris, D-Ill., is interviewed by the Associated Press in his Capitol Hill office in Washington. Obama and other top Democrats sharply criticized his appointment to the Senate in December by an ethically tainted governor, Illinois' Rod Blagojevich, and they forced Burris to abandon hopes of winning election in 2010 by making it clear they would not back him.

Associated Press

LARRY MARGASAK,

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate ethics committee admonished a U.S. senator on Friday for making "inconsistent, misleading or incomplete" statements about the circumstances surrounding his appointment to the Senate seat once held by Barack Obama. The committee recommended no action beyond the letter.

Continued on Page B3

6 world powers press Iran on nuclear issue

SLOBODAN LEKIC

Associated Press Writer

BRUSSELS (AP) —

Representatives of six world powers urged Iran on Friday to accept a U.N. plan aimed at delaying its ability to build a nuclear weapon, as the head of the U.N. nuclear watchdog agency warned Tehran not to miss the opportunity to resolve the dispute.

An EU official said there was no mention of imposing sanctions against Iran for its refusal to halt nuclear enrichment activities at the meeting of senior diplomats from the U.N. Security Council's five permanent members plus Germany.



In this Nov. 17, 2009 file photo, Iranian Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki addresses the media in Tehran, Iran.

Associated Press

Continued on Page B6

U.S. report: Women in 20s can go 2 years between Paps



Sen. Tom Coburn, R-Okla. walks on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2009, following the weekly caucus luncheons.

Associated Press

LAURAN NEERGAARD

AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON (AP)—New guidelines by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists say most women in their 20s can have a Pap smear every two years instead of annually to catch slow-growing cervical cancer. The change comes amid a separate debate over when regular mammograms to detect

breast cancer should begin, in the 40s or the 50s. The timing of the Pap guidelines is coincidence, said ACOG, which began reviewing its recommendations in late 2007 and published the update Friday in the journal *Obstetrics & Gynecology*.

While the two sets of recommendations are unrelated, they come at a time of intense debate over health-

care reform. Mammograms in particular have drawn broad attention in Congress, reflecting a more than decade-long debate in the cancer community about how best to perform mammograms.

Republicans sought to connect the mammogram recommendations to the health-care overhaul, contending that such findings are the way that government-directed medical rationing starts.

Under the pending legislation, “nothing would prohibit the federal government from deciding if tests, treatments and procedures are too expensive, and therefore, unnecessary,” Sens. Jon Ky, a leading Republican, and Tom Coburn, a physician and party colleague, said in a joint statement.

But the Pap guidelines promise to be far less controversial as doctors for years have been told to perform fewer Paps among many women over 30, to cut back on unneeded care

for the least at risk — and there’s growing understanding that over-treating younger women is an issue, too.

“The tradition of doing a Pap test every year has not been supported by recent scientific evidence,” said Dr. Alan Waxman of the University of New Mexico, who headed ACOG’s review.

The guidelines also say: —Routine Paps should start at age 21. Previously, ACOG had urged a first Pap either within three years of first sexual intercourse or at age 21.

—Women 30 and older should wait three years between Paps once they’ve had three consecutive clear tests. Other national guidelines have long recommended the three-year interval; ACOG had previously backed a two- to three-year wait.

—Higher-risk women, such as those with HIV, other immune-weakening conditions or previous cervical abnormalities, need more

frequent screening.

Paps can spot pre-cancerous changes in the cervix in time to prevent invasive cancer, and widespread use has halved cervical cancer rates in the U.S. in recent decades.

Cervical cancer is caused by certain strains of the extremely common sexually transmitted virus called HPV, for human papillomavirus. There is a new HPV vaccine that should cut cervical cancer in the future; ACOG’s guidelines say for now vaccinated women should follow the same Pap guidelines as the unvaccinated.

But the updated guidelines reflect better understanding of HPV.

Infection is high among sexually active teens and young adults. Women’s bodies very often fight off an HPV infection on their own without lasting harm, although it can take a year or two. The younger the woman, the more likely that HPV is going to be transient. □

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ETHIC COMMITTEE

Continued from Page B1

Sen. Roland Burris was appointed by disgraced former Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich, who was impeached and driven from office after he was accused of trying to sell the U.S. president's vacated Senate seat.

The committee cited at least one example, a phone conversation with the governor's brother, in which Burris linked his possible appointment to the Senate with his willingness to raise money for the governor.

While finding no violation of law, the committee's "Public Letter of Qualified Admonition" told Burris that "Senators must meet a much higher standard of conduct" than he exhibited with his constantly changing statements.

The ethics committee has been criticized often for failing to go beyond letters of admonition after finding a senator's conduct had discredited the institution.

Burris commented, "I am pleased that after numerous investigations, this matter has finally come to a close. I thank the members of the Senate Ethics Committee for their fair and thorough review of this matter, and now look forward to continuing the important work ahead on behalf of the people of Illinois."

Weakened and facing multiple primary challengers next spring, Burris has decided not to fight for a full Senate term next year. Fellow Democrats shun him. Meanwhile, the former governor, Blagojevich, is scheduled to go to trial in June.

The ethics committee was especially critical of Burris' comments during the Nov. 13, 2008, phone call from the governor's brother.

While Robert Blagojevich

explicitly told Burris he was calling to raise campaign money for the governor, the committee's letter to Burris said, "you appeared to agree to write a check and even potentially raise money"; and "repeatedly brought up your desire to seek the Senate seat."

"You also implied that the people you might raise money from would be unhappy if you did not receive the appointment," the committee wrote. The committee found the conversation "inappropriate in its content and implications." The letter also was critical of Burris' shifting explanations about his contacts with the governor or his representatives.

The committee found: —In his Jan. 5, 2009, affidavit to the Illinois House of Representatives, Burris said he did not have contact with Gov. Blagojevich or any of his representatives about an appointment to the Senate before Dec. 26, 2008. Blagojevich appointed Burris to the Senate four days later.

—In his Jan. 8, 2009, testimony before the committee to impeach the governor,

Burris — despite repeated questions on the subject — did not disclose having any conversations about his desire to seek the appointment, or about fundraising, with anyone associated with the governor except former Blagojevich top aide Lon Monk.

—It was not until Burris' second affidavit and subsequent press statements that the senator disclosed additional contacts with associates of the governor.

"You gave multiple and at times contradictory explanations for failing to disclose all your contacts with the governor's associates, which individually and collectively gave the appearance that you were being less than candid," the ethics panel wrote.

The committee said that in deciding to go no further than the letter, it considered that a county prosecutor found Burris' sworn statements had not violated the law.

"We were also aware that these issues surrounding your appointment to and seating in the Senate have been subject to intense public criticism," the committee said.

The second-ranking Senate

Democrat, Dick Durbin, the other senator from Illinois, said, "When we met with Roland Burris in January, we made it clear that in order for him to be seated in the U.S. Senate, he needed to appear before the Illinois General Assembly to testify openly, honestly and completely about the nature of his relationship with the former governor, his associates and the circumstances surrounding this appointment."

"Since then, the accuracy and completeness of his testimony and affidavits have been called into question. The U.S. Senate Ethics Committee has completed its review into this matter and found that Sen. Burris' actions have brought discredit on him and the Senate. The letter of qualified admonition from the Ethics Committee speaks for itself." □



In this Nov. 3, 2009 file photo Sen. Roland Burris, D-Ill. is seen during a joint session of Congress on Capitol Hill in Washington. On Friday, Nov. 20, 2009, the Senate ethics committee admonished Burris for making "inconsistent, misleading or incomplete" statements about the circumstances surrounding his appointment to the seat once held by Barack Obama. The committee didn't recommend any punishment.

Associated Press

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Sen. Mary Landrieu, D-La., walks in the Capitol before heading into a Democratic caucus on health care reform in Washington Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2009.

HEALTH CARE VOTE Continued from Page B1

“No other senator speaks for Senator Lincoln. She is still reviewing the bill,” declared the senator’s spokeswoman, Leah Vest DiPietro, adding her boss had not yet made up her mind. For his part, Durbin

Associated Press

sought to quickly closed the loop with a statement saying he had been unclear and misinterpreted.

As for Nelson, several officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said he had insisted Reid omit from the bill any change in the

insurance industry’s protection from federal antitrust law. The House version of the legislation would expose the industry to scrutiny by both the Justice Department’s antitrust lawyers and the Federal Trade Commission.

Reid, who spoke out strongly in favor of the change in antitrust treatment earlier in the fall, left it out of the bill he drafted over several weeks and unveiled on Wednesday. Lincoln has been the most close-mouthed about her intention. As a committee chairman, she is the most powerful of the group. As the only one of the three seeking re-election next year, she is also the most politically vulnerable.

In public, she has asked that the bill be available for 72 hours before the vote occurs. In private, her demands have been more substantive,

according to officials who did not describe them.

She is virtually certain to be criticized no matter what her vote. After the House cleared its version of the legislation this month, a conservative group began airing commercials criticizing Rep. Vic Snyder, D-Ark., for voting in its favor. At the same time, MoveOn.org, a liberal organization, slammed another one of the state’s lawmakers, Rep. Mike Ross, for opposing it.

A hint: At home, Lincoln has suggested her vote will be influenced by former President Bill Clinton, who was Arkansas governor for 12 years before winning the White House.

Clinton recently met privately with Senate Democrats, telling them that passing an imperfect bill was better than nothing. “We don’t ever go to Washington with the idea

that we’re going to create a work of art,” Lincoln said afterward. “It’s got to be a work in progress.”

Of the three, Landrieu has been the clearest about her intentions, and her interests ranged beyond health insurance to the oysters for which Louisiana is famous. When the Food and Drug Administration proposed banning sales of raw oysters from the Gulf of Mexico during warm weather months, Landrieu and others objected. A week ago, the agency thought better of the idea and shelved the plan in favor of further study. “I’m really thankful that they listened,” said Landrieu, who had met with FDA Commissioner Margaret Hamburg to discuss the issue.

Over recent weeks, Landrieu has issued a string of statements outlining the areas she wanted addressed for the benefit of her constituents — issues that could be dealt with only after health legislation made it to the Senate floor.

After meeting with Reid almost a month ago, she mentioned the “unique challenges Louisiana is facing in terms of Medicaid.”

In a Senate speech and statement, she noted that Louisiana has the highest breast cancer death rate in the country and the lowest female life expectancy of any state. And she said, “Unless something is done, annual health care costs for small firms over the next 10 years are expected to more than double to reach \$339 billion in 2018.”

Landrieu can point to provisions in the legislation that are designed to attack all three problems.

They include Section 2006. Reading it is of little assistance. “Special adjustment to FMAP Determination for Certain States recovering from a Major Disaster” is the title, and about two pages of similarly indecipherable legalese follows.

According to the Congressional Budget Office, it will send an additional \$100 million to Louisiana to help it cover costs for Medicaid, the federal-state health care program for the poor. □

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UC students occupy buildings to protest fee hike

BERKELEY, Calif. — Students barricaded themselves inside buildings on University of California campuses to protest a 32 percent increase in student fees and budget cuts that have led to slashed programs and lost jobs.

Demonstrators at UC Berkeley occupied Wheeler Hall on Friday and hung a sign from a window that read “32 Percent Hike, 900 layoffs,” with the word “Class” crossed out in red. A group of students also rallied outside the building.

Campus police said they had arrested three of the demonstrators inside.

Police would not say how many protesters remained in the building. University police Lt. Alex Yao said demonstrators were barricaded behind fire doors on the second floor, but police had control of the rest of the building.

The Daily Californian student newspaper said it received a text message from a protester in the building who put the number still inside at 60

undergraduates and graduate students.

The occupiers were demanding the university rehire laid-off custodial workers and give amnesty to anyone arrested in the protest. At UC Santa Cruz, Provost David Kliger said a group of students was blocking exits at Kerr Hall, which houses science departments and administrative offices.

Kliger said he would not consider the students’ demands until they cleared the obstructions.



Demonstrators wave as they are barricaded inside of a closed-off University of California, Berkeley building on the Berkeley, Calif., campus, Friday, Nov. 20, 2009, during a demonstration against university fee hikes and layoffs.

Associated Press

About 30 to 50 protesters staged a takeover of Campbell Hall at UCLA on Thursday, as regents met across campus to approve the fee hike. More than 50 students were arrested

during protests at UC Davis. Regents say they had to raise fees because the cash-strapped state government can’t meet the university’s funding needs□

Couple pleads guilty in Cuban spying case

DEVLIN BARRETT
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — A retired State Department worker and his wife, accused of a decadeslong plot to spy for Cuba, pleaded guilty Friday in a deal that will leave him in jail for the rest of his life but gives her a chance at freedom after six years.

Walter Kendall Myers and his wife, Gwendolyn, both in their 70s, were caught in an undercover FBI sting operation, arrested in June and held without bail.

Two people familiar with the plea deal, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the negotiations, said Walter Kendall Myers agreed to a life sentence partly to help his wife get less prison time in the hopes she would not die behind bars.

Walter Kendall Myers pleaded guilty to plotting to commit espionage and to wire fraud. His wife pleaded guilty to the lesser charge of plotting to gather and transmit national defense information and agreed to serve six to 7½ years in prison. Both agreed to cooperate fully with investigators.

U.S. District Judge Reggie Walton accepted their pleas Friday afternoon.

The couple’s lawyer, Bradford Berenson, said they acted “not out of selfish motive or hope of personal gain but out

of conscience and personal commitment.”

“They always understood that they might some day be called to account for that conduct and always have been prepared to accept full responsibility for it,” the lawyer said in a written statement.

Through court documents filed in connection with the plea, Walter Kendall Myers admitted he was known as “Agent 202,” and he and Gwendolyn began a conspiracy in 1979 to provide national security information to the government of Cuba. The couple married three years later.

U.S. authorities say the Myerses delivered government secrets to Cuban agents over the past 30 years using a shortwave radio, by swapping

carts at a grocery store and in at least one face-to-face meeting with former Cuban leader Fidel Castro in Cuba.

Key evidence in the case came from an undercover sting involving an FBI operative who approached Kendall Myers on the street on the defendant’s birthday, April 15. The operative gave Kendall Myers a cigar, said he knew his Cuban handler and asked that they meet later.

The ruse worked, and the Myerses met three times with the undercover operative at Washington hotels over the next two weeks. The FBI secretly videotaped the sessions, in which they say the couple made many incriminating statements about their time as spies.

In one of those sessions, Gwendolyn Myers allegedly proposed to the undercover that her husband could be an instructor at a Cuban intelligence academy.

“So when can we come?” she allegedly said.

Previously filed court documents indicate the couple received little money for their efforts, but instead professed a deep love for Cuba, Castro and the country’s system of government.

The documents describe the couple’s spying methods that changed with the times, beginning with old-fashioned tools of Cold War spying: Morse code messages over a short-wave radio and notes taken on water-soluble paper. By the time they retired from

the work in 2007, they were reportedly sending encrypted e-mails from Internet cafes.

One court filing says changing technology also persuaded Gwendolyn Myers to abandon what she considered an easy way of passing information, by changing shopping carts in a grocery store. The document quoted her as saying she would no longer use that tactic. “Now they have cameras, but they didn’t then.”

When they fell for the FBI sting this year, the Myerses had been out of touch with their Cuban handlers for some time, according to court documents. The couple said they lived “in fear and anxiety for a long time.” Kendall Myers feared his boss had put him on a watch list in 1995.□

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A street child sleeps next to a stray dog, as another looks for fleas in his clothes, in Katmandu, Nepal, Thursday, Nov. 19, 2009. Twenty years after the U.N. adopted a treaty guaranteeing children's rights, fewer youngsters are dying and more are going to school, but an estimated 1 billion still lack services essential to their survival and development, UNICEF said Thursday.

Associated Press

after a day after President Barack Obama said the six nations will develop a package of serious new punitive measures in coming weeks. He did not give details.

On Wednesday, Tehran indicated it would not export its enriched uranium for further processing, effectively rejecting the latest plan brokered by the International Atomic Energy Agency and aimed at delaying Iran's ability to build a nuclear weapon.

Under the IAEA plan, Iran would export its uranium for enrichment in Russia and France where it would be converted into fuel rods, which would be returned to Iran about a year later. The rods can power reactors but cannot be readily turned into weapons-grade material.

A statement issued by the political directors expressed disappointment over Iran's failure to engage in intensified dialogue since a promising meeting on Oct. 1 in Geneva. The West says Tehran agreed in principle to export that amount in one shipment during the Geneva talks — something Iranian officials have denied.

The statement also noted that Tehran had not responded positively to the IAEA proposal.

"We urge Iran to reconsider the opportunity offered by this agreement ... and to engage seriously with us in dialogue and negotiations," the statement said.

The officials said they would hold a follow-up meeting around Christmas. In Berlin, Mohamed El-Baradei, the U.N. nuclear watchdog agency chief, pressed Iran to work with the international community.

"I would hate to see that we are moving back to sanctions," El-Baradei said. "Because sanctions, at the end of the day ... really don't resolve issues."

He said the IAEA had not yet received a formal reply from Tehran to its proposals, although Iranian officials had told him they would not send uranium for reprocessing abroad unless they first received promised fuel rods.

"Well, that to me is an extreme case of distrust," El-Baradei said. "And what we are really trying to do is replace distrust by a degree of trust."

Iranian Foreign Minister Manochehr Mottaki on Thursday played down the threat of sanctions saying embargoes had proved ineffective in the past and that he didn't believe they would be tried again. □

6 WORLD POWERS

Continued from Page B1

"These things are a matter of timing, and this was not the right time for it," said the official who asked not to be named because of the sensitivity of the matter.

The talks in Brussels involved political directors — foreign ministry officials below ministerial level. The United States was represented by Undersecretary of State William Burns, and Russia by Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov.

The talks came just a day



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R	THE STEPFATHER				
	daily:	4:15	6:45	9:15	
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PG	THIS IS IT MICHAEL JACKSON				
	daily:	6:00	8:30		
	matinee:	1:00	3:30	late show:	12:00
PG	TIM BURTON'S NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS				
	daily:	4:00	6:00		
	matinee:	12:00	2:00	late show:	
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	matinee:	1:00	late show:	11:15	
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	matinee:	12:00	2:15	late show:	
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PG	THIS IS IT MICHAEL JACKSON				
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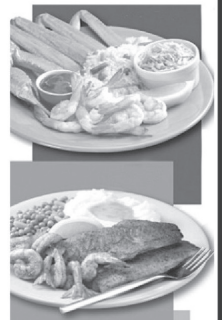
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Resort island reels after deadly attack by gunman

GEMMA CASAS

Associated Press Writer

SAIPAN, Northern Mariana Islands (AP) — The Pacific resort island of Saipan was reeling Saturday from one of the most violent attacks in its history, when a gunman killed five people, including two small children and himself, in a rampage that ended at a World War II historical site. The violence claimed the lives of two men, a 4-year-old boy and a 2-year-old girl, all residents of the U.S. commonwealth, Public Safety spokesman Jason Tarkong said. Five South Korean tourists, including a boy and a girl, and a 4-year-old local girl were among the six people wounded.

"The commonwealth has never experienced a tragic situation like this, and we are saddened by the appalling action of a single individual that has caused so much harm to our peaceful island community," Gov. Benigno R. Fitial said.

Fitial stressed the tourist haven was still a safe place and precautions would be taken to prevent similar attacks. Police said the attack began Friday inside a shooting range in the community of Kannat Tabla, killing two men in their early 20s and the two children.

The 4-year-old girl was critically injured with a gunshot wound to the chest. Shortly after the first attack, the suspect began firing a rifle from a white van at a group of South Koreans visiting a World War II historic spot in nearby Marpi, wounding five. Police do not believe the shooter was specifically targeting tourists in what Tarkong termed a random drive-by shooting. Authorities said the suspected shooter was a contract worker in his 30s or 40s from Asia, but his name and home country were not disclosed. Several residents said the man was known as "Mr. Lee" and they believe he was from China.

The Pacific News Center identified the gunman as Lee Zhong Ren, an employee at the shooting range. The news station also reported that Lee left behind a suicide note that

spoke of a business deal gone bad.

Police would not immediately confirm the report.

Saipan is the main island of the U.S. Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, which has about 60,000 residents and is located about 3,800 miles southwest of Hawaii. Saipan is a popular tourist destination among South Koreans, with more than 111,000 South Koreans visiting the island in 2008, according to the Marianas Visitors Authority.

Korea is the second largest market for the commonwealth, behind Japan.

The suspect was last spotted driving toward Banzai Cliff, the site where an untold number of Japanese jumped to their deaths in 1944 after the

Battle of Saipan. When police officers arrived in the area, witnesses reported a man was shooting a rifle.

Police discovered the van and recovered three rifles inside the vehicle.

Officials said the gunman's body was found along the edge off the cliff line near the vehicle with a .22-caliber rifle strapped around his shoulder.

The South Korean tourists were sightseeing in an area known as the Last Command Post, a World War II attraction featuring remnants of American tanks. There is also a memorial in the area dedicated to Koreans who fought in the war.

Among the South Koreans, a 39-year-old man was critically injured with a wound to his back. A 5-year-old girl



Saipan emergency members carry an injured person on the Pacific resort island of Saipan, Friday, Nov. 20, 2009. A gunman opened fire on the Pacific resort island of Saipan, killing four people before fatally shooting himself, and wounding eight others, a South Korean official said Friday.

Associated Press

and an 8-year-old boy were treated and released from the Commonwealth Health Center.

Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos called it a sad day for the commonwealth, which is heavily dependent on tourism. □

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Residents of the village of Cockermouth, England, are seen being rescued from their homes by members of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI), who were mobilized to help the residents after heavy rain caused local flooding in the picturesque village, Friday, Nov. 20, 2009. The Royal Air Force and RNLI rescue services have joined efforts to rescue around 200 people who are stranded by rising floodwater in the northern England tourist town.

Associated Press

SCOTT HEPPELL

Associated Press Writer

COCKERMOUTH, England (AP) — Military helicopters winched dozens of people to safety and emergency workers in inflatable boats rescued scores more as floods on Friday swamped northern England's picturesque Lake District. One police officer died after a bridge was swept away by the surging waters.

British soldiers conducted house-to-house searches for those trapped by floods as deep

as 8 feet. Troops also dropped down on lines from air force helicopters, breaking through rooftops to pluck people to safety.

Emergency services said more than 200 people were rescued in the hardest-hit town, Cockermouth. At least 960 homes were flooded after a day of unprecedented rain, police in the northern region of Cumbria said.

Heavy rain and gales also brought widespread flooding to Ireland, as more than 3 feet

Floods devastate UK Lake District; much of Ireland

of water shut down the center of the country's second-largest city, Cork, and more than a dozen towns and villages.

Cockermouth, a market town 330 miles northwest of London, lies at the junction of the Cocker and Derwent rivers and is known for being the birthplace of poet William Wordsworth.

"It has devastated the town," said Michael Dunn, manager of the Bitter End pub in Cockermouth. "There is a lot of properties in Main Street, private shops, that have had their windows smashed in by the force of the water and by debris in the water."

"There were cars floating down the street. It will be a long time before Cockermouth recovers from this."

The rain stopped and floodwaters began to ease Friday, giving rescuers a chance to reach trapped people by boat. Debris swirled around the boats as they pulled people to safety. Tony Walker of Cockermouth told BBC radio he was on the top floor of his house and the water on the ground floor was chest-high.

"I've had better mornings," Walker said. "I've been here all night and I've run out of water now, so I'm thinking of making a break for it, really. The water is still pretty deep, it's going down, but at this rate it's going to be hours before it's clear."

Forecasters said the rainfall was unprecedented. The Environment Agency recorded 12.3 inches of rain in 24 hours in one spot — one of the wettest days ever recorded in England. "It looks like a very historical event," said Julian Mayes, a forecaster with MeteoGroup UK.

Environment Secretary Hilary Benn told the BBC that flood defenses were meant to withstand a one-in-100-years flood — but could not cope with the volume of water.

"What we dealt with last night was probably more like one-in-a-1,000, so even the very best defenses, if you have such quantities of rain in such a short space of time, can be over-topped," Benn said.

Police urged people not to travel, as many roads were impassible. Two bridges collapsed in the

town of Workington, including a main one over the River Derwent. Cumbria Police said Constable Bill Barker, 44, died after he was knocked into the water when the structure gave way.

"This is a stone bridge — to wash away a bridge of that size and dimension is incredible," said lawmaker Tony Cunningham. Prime Minister Gordon Brown that he had spoken to Cumbria Chief Constable Craig Mackey to offer help.

"Our thoughts are with all those who have been impacted by these floods," Brown said.

The Irish army deployed more than 100 soldiers, two dozen trucks and several flat-bottomed boats to evacuate people trapped by waist-deep floodwaters in cars and homes. A helicopter also winched to safety a County Galway family of five, including the 87-year-old grandmother.

The floods caused transport chaos along Ireland's western coast, with many major roads blocked and train services canceled.

The water caused extensive damage to the Lake Hotel on the shores of the fabled Killarney Lakes in County Kerry. About 170 guests at the Victorian period building had to be evacuated by tractor as dozens of staff carried period furniture upstairs.

The hotel's 12th-century castle, normally a floodlit tourist's highlight on the lake vista, was almost completely under water Friday.

"You can just see the top of the castle and everything else is covered," said the hotel's general manager, Niall Huggard.

The River Suck burst its banks in County Leitrim near the Northern Ireland border, flooding the town of Ballinasloe and cutting off major roads to Ireland's northwest. About 40 families had to be evacuated by boat.

The Irish weather forecasting service, Met Eireann, said parts of southern and western Ireland suffered their most intense and sustained rainfall in 30 years. Friday was mostly sunny but more rain and gales were forecast for the weekend. □



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Photo by Diane Keijzer



Researcher: Faint writing seen on Shroud of Turin

ARIEL DAVID

Associated Press Writer

ROME (AP) — A Vatican researcher has rekindled the age-old debate over the Shroud of Turin, saying that faint writing on the linen proves it was the burial cloth of Jesus.

Experts say the historian may be reading too much into the markings, and they stand by carbon-dating that points to the shroud being a medieval forgery.

Barbara Frale, a researcher at the Vatican archives, says in a new book that she used computer-enhanced images of the shroud to decipher faintly written words in Greek, Latin and Aramaic scattered across the cloth.

She asserts that the words include the name “(J)esu(s) Nazarene” — or Jesus of Nazareth — in Greek. That, she said, proves the text could not be of medieval origin because no Christian at the time, even a forger, would have mentioned Jesus without referring to his divinity. Failing to do so would risk being branded a heretic.

“Even someone intent on forging a relic would have had all the reasons to place the signs of divinity on this object,” Frale said Friday. “Had we found ‘Christ’ or the ‘Son of God’ we could have considered it a hoax, or a devotional inscription.”

The shroud bears the figure of a crucified man, complete with blood seeping from his hands and feet, and believers say Christ’s image was recorded on the linen’s fibers at the time of his resurrection.

The fragile artifact, owned by the Vatican, is kept locked in a protective chamber in a Turin cathedral and is rarely shown. Measuring 13 feet (four meters) long and three feet (one meter) wide, the shroud has suffered

severe damage through the centuries, including from fire.

The Catholic Church makes no claims about the cloth’s authenticity, but says it is a powerful symbol of Christ’s suffering.

There has been strong debate about it in the scientific community.

Skeptics point out that radiocarbon dating conducted on the cloth in 1988 determined it was made in the 13th or 14th century.

But Raymond Rogers of Los Alamos National Laboratory said in 2005 that the tested threads came from patches used to repair the shroud after a fire. Rogers, who died shortly after publishing his findings, calculated it is 1,300 to 3,000 years old and could easily date from Jesus’ era.

Another study, by the Hebrew University, concluded that pollen and plant images on the shroud showed it originated in the area around Jerusalem sometime before the eighth century.

While faint letters scattered around the face on the shroud were seen decades ago, serious researchers dismissed them, due to the results of the radiocarbon dating test, Frale told The Associated Press.

But when she cut out the words from enhanced photos of the shroud and showed them to experts, they concurred the writing style was typical of the Middle East in the first century — Jesus’ time.

She believes the text was written on a document by a clerk and glued to the shroud over the face so the body could be identified by relatives and buried properly. Metals in the ink used at the time may have allowed the writing to

transfer to the linen, Frale said.

She said she counted at least 11 words in her study of enhanced images produced by French scientists in a 1994 study. The words are fragmented and scattered on and around the image’s head, crisscrossing the cloth vertically and horizontally. One short sequence of Aramaic letters has not been fully translated. Another fragment in Greek — “iber” — may refer to Emperor Tiberius, who reigned at the time of Jesus’ crucifixion, Frale said.

She said the text also partially confirms the Gospels’ account of Jesus’ final moments. A fragment in Greek that can be read as “removed at the ninth hour” may refer to Christ’s time of death reported in the holy texts, she said.

In her book “The Shroud of Jesus Nazarene,” published in Italian, Frale reconstructs from the lettering on the shroud what she believes Jesus’ death certificate said: “Jesus Nazarene. Found (guilty of inciting the people to revolt). Put to death in the year 16 of Tiberius. Taken down at the ninth hour.”

She said the text then stipulates the body will be returned to relatives after a year.

Frale said her research was done without the support of the Vatican.

“I tried to be objective and leave religious issues aside,” Frale told the AP. “What I studied was an ancient document that certifies the execution of a man, in a specific time and place.”

Frale’s work usually focuses on medieval documents. She is noted for research on the order of the Knights Templar and her discovery of unpublished documents on the group in the Vatican’s archives.



Earlier this year, she published a study saying the Templars once had the shroud in their possession. That raised eyebrows because the order was abolished in the early 14th century and the shroud is first recorded in history around 1360 in the hands of a French knight.

Her latest book on the shroud raised even more doubts among some experts.

On one hand, it is true that a medieval forger would label the object with Christ’s name, as were all relics produced at the time, said Antonio Lombatti, a church historian who has written about the shroud. The problem is that there are no inscriptions to be seen in the first place.

“People work on grainy photos and think they see things,” Lombatti told the AP. “It’s all the result of imagination and computer software. ... If you look at a photo of the shroud, there’s a lot of contrast between light and dark, but there are no letters.”

Further criticizing Frale’s work, Lombatti said that artifacts bearing Greek and Aramaic texts were found in Jewish burials from the first century, but the use of Latin is unheard of.

He also rejected the idea that authorities would officially return the body of a crucified man to relatives after filling out some paperwork. Victims of that form of execution used by the Romans would usually be left on the cross or were disposed of in a dump to add to its deterrent.

Lombatti said “the message

was that you won’t even have a tomb to cry over.”

Another shroud expert, Gian Marco Rinaldi, said that even scientists who believe in the relic’s authenticity have dismissed as unreliable the images on which Frale’s study was based.

“These computer enhancements increase contrast in an unrealistic way to bring out these signs,” he said. “You can find them all over the shroud, not just near the head, and then with a bit of imagination, you see letters.”

Unusual sightings in the shroud are common and are often proved false, said Luigi Garlaschelli, a professor of chemistry at the University of Pavia. He recently led a team of experts that reproduced the shroud using materials and methods available in the 14th century — proof, they said, that it could have been made by a human hand in the Middle Ages.

Decades ago, entire studies were published on coins purportedly seen on Jesus’ closed eyes, but when high-definition images were taken during a 2002 restoration, the artifacts were nowhere to be seen and the theory was dropped, Garlaschelli said.

He said any theory about ink and metals would have to be checked by analysis of the shroud itself.

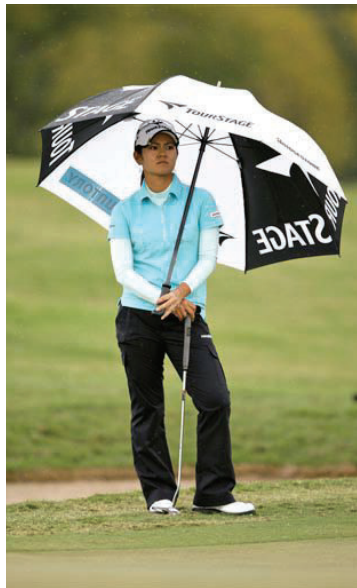
The last public display of the shroud was in 2000, when more than 1 million people turned up to see it. The next is scheduled for 2010, and Pope Benedict XVI has been asked to visit it. □

SPORTS

Aruba TODAY



Rain cuts short round 2 at LPGA Tour Championship



Ai Miyazato, of Japan, waits to putt on the 10th green during the second round of the LPGA Tour Championship golf tournament Friday, Nov. 20, 2009 in Richmond, Texas.

Associated Press

CHRIS DUNCAN

AP Sports Writer

RICHMOND, Texas (AP)

— Sophie Gustafson has moved within two shots of leader Lorena Ochoa at the weather-delayed LPGA Tour Championship.

Rain swamped the Houstonian Golf and Country Club before dawn on Friday and the start of the second round was pushed back six hours. The tournament resumed at 1 p.m., but light rain started falling about two hours later and play was halted at 5:05 p.m. with darkness approaching.

Ochoa didn't play after shooting a 6-under 66 early Thursday. She will start her second round at daybreak on Saturday.

Gustafson shot a 70 in the first round, then played 11 holes and moved to 4 under on Friday when play was halted. The weekend forecast is mostly clear and tournament officials are racing to finish the season-ending event on Sunday. □



This is a Nov. 15, 2009, file photo showing New England Patriots head coach Bill Belichick during an NFL football game against the Indianapolis Colts, in Indianapolis. For all the criticism Belichick has taken this week about not punting from his 28 on fourth-and-2 with a six-point lead and just over 2 minutes remaining, the issue should have been New England's poor clock management.

Associated Press

NFL Preview

Bad time to be playing Patriots

BARRY WILNER,

AP Football Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — There's never really a good time for the New York Jets to face the New England Patriots. Since Bill Belichick became New England's coach in 2000, the Jets are 7-13 against their division rivals.

Many of the NFL games have been contentious — remember Spygate and the Eric Mangini-Belichick non-handshakes — and Belichick and current Jets coach Rex Ryan aren't exactly friends. It won't help Belichick's mood, either, that New York won 16-9 in September.

Not that Belichick's dour demeanor has been anything close to cheery since last Sunday's late-game gamble backfired and the Patriots fell 35-34 to the Indianapolis Colts.

So playing extra hard against the Jets might be on the mind of Belichick and the Patriots, if not to virtually secure another AFC East division crown then to ease the memories from Indianapolis.

"I'm worried about the Jets," Patriots star Tom Brady said. "I think we've all got to move forward (from the Colts game) and understand that we're playing a great opponent, one that really gave our offense a lot of problems the last time we played them and that has a lot of good players."

The Jets also have problems on both sides of the line. Their running game is strong, but

rookie Mark Sanchez is going through the expected struggles of a first-year quarterback. Their aggressive defense was rolled over by Jacksonville for a winning drive last weekend. And now they have some ticked off Patriots to contend with.

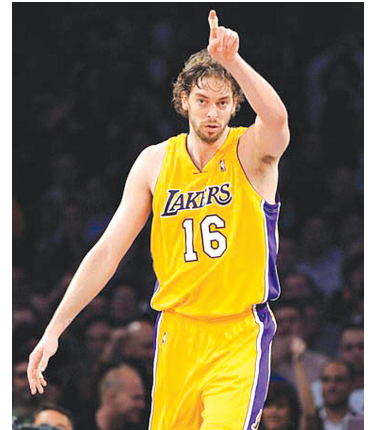
Following that gritty, if somewhat fortuitous, comeback against New England, the Colts should be feeling rather spry. Their record is 9-0 for the third time in five years, and they have a team-record 18 consecutive regular-season victories. A win against the Baltimore Ravens will give them the second-longest streak behind New England's 21 that included the 16-0 mark in 2007.

"We can't be in any better spot, that's a given," said Jim Caldwell, thus far the most successful rookie coach in the modern era. "But the fact of the matter is there's still a lot of work to be done. If you take a peek in the rearview mirror, there are some teams behind us, but not very far behind us, in our division even."

The other perfect team, the New Orleans Saints, have struggled so often in the past month — and not against the toughest opponents — that talk at home has quieted down about a "perfect season."

Of course, for these Saints struggling means that they haven't clinched games by the end of the third quarter.

Continued on Page B12



Los Angeles Lakers center Pau Gasol of Spain celebrates a basket during the first half of their NBA basketball game against the Chicago Bulls, Thursday, Nov. 19, 2009, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

NBA Roundup Gasol fires on return as Lakers beat Bulls

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Pau Gasol had 24 points and 13 rebounds in his season debut as the Los Angeles Lakers downed the Chicago Bulls 108-93 in the NBA on Thursday.

Kobe Bryant added 21 points while passing Kareem Abdul-Jabbar on the Lakers' career scoring chart.

The Lakers finally had their full starting lineup intact. The defending NBA champions had little trouble with the Bulls, opening a 20-point lead in the third quarter before beating them for the eighth time in nine meetings.

Derrick Rose had 20 points and John Salmons scored all 18 of his points in the first half for the Bulls, who lost on the second stop of a taxing six-game road trip.

With a free throw in the third quarter, Bryant passed Abdul-Jabbar (24,276) for second place on the Lakers' career scoring list, leaving him trailing only Jerry West (25,192).

In New Orleans, Peja Stojakovic hit seven 3-pointers during a 25-point, 13-rebound performance in New Orleans' victory over Phoenix. □

NHL Roundup

Blackhawks rout Flames 7-1

CALGARY, Alberta (AP) — Kris Versteeg scored two power-play goals in Chicago's five-goal second period to help the Blackhawks rout the Calgary Flames 7-1 on Thursday in a rematch of last season's NHL first-round playoff series.

The Blackhawks beat the Flames in six games last season in the playoffs, ending the series with a 4-1 victory in Calgary. In their first meeting of the season, the Blackhawks overcame a 5-0 deficit to beat the Flames 6-5 in overtime.

Troy Brouwer and Patrick Kane added power-play goals for the Blackhawks. Dustin Byfuglien, Andrew Ladd and Ben Eager also scored to help Chicago open a six-game trip with its fifth straight victory.

Olli Jokinen found the net for Calgary.

Senators 6, Penguins 2

In Ottawa, Chris Phillips scored twice in his 800th regular-season game, leading the Ottawa over Pittsburgh. Phillips, who entered with one goal in his past 18 games, scored goals 2:03 apart in the third to put Ottawa up 5-1.

Ottawa goaltender Pascale Leclaire made 25 saves and Milan Michalek got his 100th career goal. Matt Carkner,

Chris Kelly and Jonathan Cheechoo also scored for the Senators.

Jordan Staal scored early in the first, and Evgeni Malkin had a power-play goal late in the third for Pittsburgh, which gave up six straight goals after taking a 1-0 lead.

Predators 3, Devils 2, OT

In Nashville, Tennessee, Mike Santorelli and Martin Erat scored shootout goals to lift Nashville over New Jersey.

Jason Arnott had two goals in regulation for the Predators.

Zach Parise scored twice for New Jersey.

Blue Jackets 4, Stars 1

In Dallas, Rick Nash scored on a power play and Kristian Huselius added a short-handed goal for Columbus in the final second of the fight-filled opening period, setting up victory over Dallas.

Huselius and Raffi Torres added goals during a 5-minute power play in the second period, and the Blue Jackets went on to win their third straight and improve to 6-1-1 in their last eight games.

Dallas' Mike Modano scored his 546th career goal.

Bruins 4, Thrashers 3, SO

In Atlanta, Patrice Bergeron scored the only goal of the shootout to snap Boston's

three-game losing streak and end Atlanta's winning streak at four.

The Thrashers picked up a point when Maxim Afinogenov scored with 41 seconds remaining in regulation.

Boston goaltender Tuukka Rask stopped all three Atlanta skaters in the shootout, while Bergeron scored on the Bruins' opening attempt.

Michael Ryder scored twice, and Marco Sturm also had a regulation goal for Boston. Kovalchuk and Nik Antropov also scored for Atlanta.

Blues 3, Coyotes 2, OT

In St. Louis, Erik Johnson scored on an end-to-end rush 17 seconds into overtime to give St. Louis its first victory in five overtime games this season, edging Phoenix.

After Phoenix put the puck in St. Louis' end, Johnson gained control, skated up left wing and crossed the Coyotes' blue line with the puck. The defenseman moved into the high slot and beat the goalie with a wrist shot.

Keith Tkachuk and T.J. Oshie also scored for St. Louis. Radim Vrbata and Vernon Fiddler scored for Phoenix.

Ducks 4, Lightning 3, OT

In Anaheim, California, Scott Niedermayer scored a power-play goal 52 seconds



Chicago Blackhawks' Kris Versteeg, right, celebrates his goal with teammate Brent Seabrook (7) during second period NHL hockey action against the Calgary Flames in Calgary, Alberta, on Thursday, Nov. 19, 2009.

Associated Press

into overtime as Anaheim escaped with a win over Tampa Bay despite blowing a three-goal lead.

Corey Perry extended his career-best point streak to 13 games with a power play goal and two assists, and Ryan Getzlaf and Teemu Selanne each had a goal and two assists for the Ducks.

Jeff Halpern, Steven Stamkos and Martin St. Louis scored for Tampa Bay to force overtime.

Hurricanes 6, Maple Leafs 5, SO

In Raleigh, North Carolina, Tuomo Ruutu and Jussi Jokinen scored in the shootout and Carolina rallied from three goals down to beat Toronto.

Ian White put the Maple Leafs ahead 5-4 with 30 seconds remaining, but Erik Cole tapped in a rebound with 3 seconds left to force

overtime.

Carolina's Tim Gleason scored twice in the third period, Matt Cullen had a goal and an assist, and he and Stephane Yelle scored 43 seconds apart in the second as the Hurricanes had a club-record fourth straight overtime game.

For Toronto, Alexei Ponikarovsky had a goal and an assist, and Matt Stajan, Lee Stempniak and Mikhail Grabovski also scored for the Maple Leafs, who led 3-0 after one period but saw their winless streak reach five.

In other NHL games it was, Boston 4, Atlanta 3, SO; Carolina 6, Toronto 5, SO; Ottawa 6, Pittsburgh 2; Nashville 3, New Jersey 2, SO; St. Louis 3, Phoenix 2, OT; Columbus 4, Dallas 1; Chicago 7, Calgary 1; and Anaheim 4, Tampa Bay 3, OT. □

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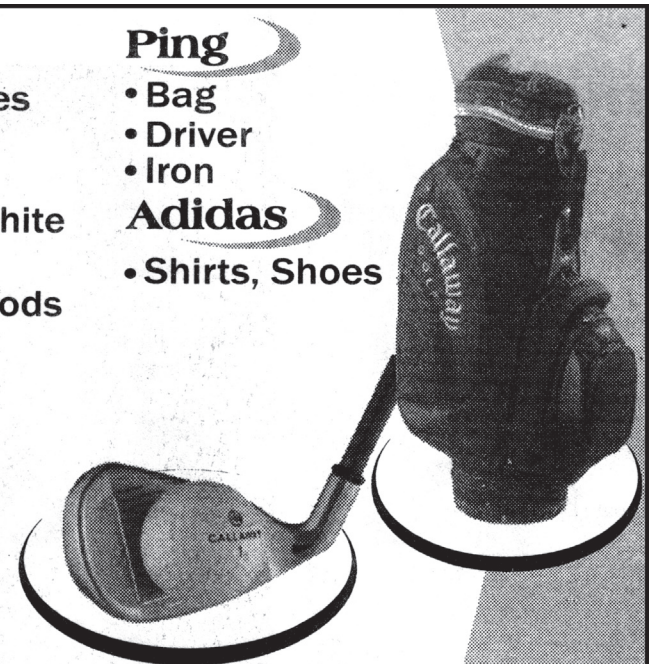
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NFL Roundup

Williams leads Dolphins over Panthers 24-17

MIKE CRANSTON,

AP Sports Writer

CHARLOTTE,

North

Carolina (AP) — The once written-off Miami Dolphins moved back into the NFL playoff picture with a 24-17 win over the Carolina Panthers on Thursday.

A day after learning Ronnie Brown is lost for the season, the Dolphins continued their recent surge after an 0-3 start behind 32-year-old Ricky Williams, who rushed for 119 yards and scored three touchdowns. The 2002 NFL rushing champion had a receiving and rushing touchdown in the same game for the first time in his career.

It was enough to beat the Panthers, whose last chance came when Jake Delhomme's desperation pass into the end zone was knocked down as time expired.

DeAngelo Williams rushed for 122 yards, but Delhomme had his streak of three games



Miami Dolphins' Ricky Williams (34) stretches the ball over the goal line for a touchdown as Carolina Panthers' Jon Beason (52) falls in the first half of an NFL football game in Charlotte, N.C., Thursday, Nov. 19, 2009.

Associated Press

without an interception snapped, then couldn't lead a late comeback bid.

The Dolphins first touchdown drive came in the second quarter — Chad Henne's 14-yard touchdown pass to Williams, who wrestled away from linebacker Na'il Diggs.

Miami took a 14-3 halftime lead when Williams took the

direct snap at the 1 and got to the end zone ahead of speedy linebacker Jon Beason.

The Panthers got within 17-14 on Steve Smith's leaping 27-yard touchdown catch and DeAngelo Williams' 2-point conversion run with 5:18 left. But Ricky Williams bounced to the outside and shook off Sherrod Martin at the Carolina 5 on a 46-

yard touchdown run on the ensuing possession.

Williams also caught two passes for 19 yards and a touchdown. Chad Henne overcame losing his center and his backup and committed no turnovers.

It was a crushing loss for the Panthers, who had also begun eyeing the playoffs after an 0-3 start. □

NFL PREVIEW

Continued from Page B10

Utility back Reggie Bush had one of his better performances against St. Louis last week, and the one-win Tampa Bay Buccaneers are so vulnerable against the run that Bush, Pierre Thomas and Mike Bell could give quarterback Drew Brees' arm most of Sunday off.

A month ago, the Denver Broncos had a three-game lead over the San Diego Chargers in the AFC West. Now

they're tied after the Chargers stopped underachieving and won four in a row, Denver has dropped three straight heading into Sunday's faceoff.

The Broncos could be without quarterback Kyle Orton, and backup Chris Simms was very rusty last weekend.

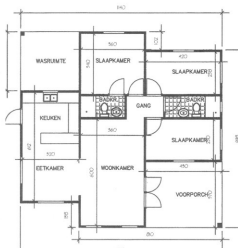
The Chargers got their running game in gear in a win over Philadelphia, and their passing game hasn't missed a beat. Perhaps most significantly, they're

making some key plays on defense again.

Also Sunday, it's Cincinnati at Oakland, Seattle at Minnesota, Pittsburgh at Kansas City, Washington at Dallas, Arizona at St. Louis, Atlanta at New York Giants, Philadelphia at Chicago, San Francisco at Green Bay, Buffalo at Jacksonville, and Cleveland at Detroit.

Tennessee is at Houston on Monday. □

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1BR	WK 49 - 50	ROOM 1515	P.V.	\$ 6.000 PW
2BR	WK 4	ROOM 5510	P.V.	\$ 6.000

MARRIOTT SURF CLUB

2BR	WK 18 - 50	GOLD	G.V.	\$ 17.000
2BR	WK 18 - 50	GOLD	O.V.	\$ 18.000
2BR	WK 18 - 50	GOLD	O.S.	\$ 22.000

MARRIOTT OCEAN CLUB

2BR		GOLD	O.V.	\$ 15.000
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COSTA LINDA BEACH RESORT

2BR	WK 47	ROOM 3034	O.V.	\$ 8.000
2BR	WK 50/51	ROOM 3007	P.O.	\$ 60.000
2BR	WK 50	ROOM 3005	P.O.	\$ 17.000

DIVI PHOENIX

1BR	WK 45	ROOM 307	P.O.	\$ 6.500
1BR	WK 48	ROOM 207	P.O.	\$ 6.000
1BR	WK 4	ROOM 1001	O.V.	\$ 6.000

LA CABANA BEACH & RAQUET CLUB

1BR	WK 46 & 47	ROOM 330C	P.O.	\$ 5.000 PW
STU	WK 47	ROOM 404B	P.O.	\$ 4.500
STU	WK 47	ROOM 237B	O.V.	\$ 4.000
1BR	WK 48	ROOM 112C	P.O.	\$ 5.000
STU	WK 48	ROOM 109B	O.V.	\$ 3.000

OCCIDENTAL RESORT

OPTIONAL ALL INCLUSIVE

1BR DLX	WK 18 & 50		O.V.	\$ 10.000
1BR SP	WK 45 & 46 OR FLOATING WK 18 & 50			\$ 30.000
2BR	WK 18-26 / 36-50 ALL INCLUSIVE			\$ 20.000
3BR	WK 18-50	O.F.		\$ 30.000 PW

PARADISE BEACH VILLAS

1BR	WK 49	ROOM 101	P.O.	\$ 6.000
1BR	WK 50	ROOM 306	G.V.	\$ 6.000

PLAYA LINDA BEACH RESORT

1BR	WK 48	ROOM 154	P.V.	\$ 8.000
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For more info: 731-2012
E-mail: johnnypaesch@yahoo.com

Dokter na Warda



ORANJESTAD

SAN NICOLAAS

Dr. Vis

Botica na warda

Oranjestad:

Botica Paradera

San Nicolaas:



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Noord	587-0009
Sta. Cruz	585-4710
Savaneta	584-7000
San Nicolas	584-5000

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Polis	100
Brandweer	115
Brandweer II	582-1108
Tipline di Polis	11141
Hospital	587-4300

Oranjestad

Ambulance	582-1234
Warda Polis	582-4000
BGD Oranjestad	582-8877

San Nicolas

Ambulance	584-5050
Warda Polis	584-5000
BGD San Nicolas	584-1606
Valero Security	584-1720

Services

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Informacion	118
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Serlimar	584-6456
Setar	582-5151
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Web	585-4600
Voogdijraad	582-1262
Taxi- Tas	587-5900
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Venezuela confirma intervención de cuatro bancos

CARACAS (Reuters) - Venezuela confirmó el viernes la intervención a puertas abiertas de cuatro pequeños bancos privados por diversos incumplimientos e irregularidades y el Gobierno garantizó la estabilidad en el resto del sistema financiero. Las instituciones son el Banco Confederado, Banco Canarias, Banco Provivienda (Banpro) y bolívar Banco, propiedad de un empresario local, que estaban bajo supervisión especial y con planes de recuperación desde el 2008, tras haber presentado algunos problemas. Analistas desestimaron que se produzca algún tipo de perturbación en el sistema financiero, donde el 70 por ciento de los depósitos está en manos de los 10 principales bancos. El ministro de Economía y Finanzas Alí Rodríguez dijo

en una conferencia de prensa que las intervenciones de las entidades "tienen como objetivo fundamental garantizar los derechos de los depositantes, de los ahorristas, incluso de los acreedores de los bancos". El funcionario precisó que entre las faltas figuran aumentos de capital sin especificar el origen de los fondos; incumplimientos recurrentes de las carteras de créditos obligatorias; declaratorias de dividendos sin autorización y realización de operaciones con empresas vinculadas. Por su parte, el Superintendente de Bancos, Edgar Hernández, dijo que los cuatro bancos estaban siendo monitoreadas por las autoridades desde fines del 2008 y tenían impuestas "medidas administrativas" por incumplimiento de



El Gobierno de Venezuela confirmó el viernes la intervención a puertas abiertas de cuatro pequeños bancos privados por incumplimiento de índices, de carteras crediticias obligatorias y problemas para especificar origen de fondos para algunas operaciones. El ministro de Economía y Finanzas, Alí Rodríguez (foto), anunció la medida que recae sobre el Banco Confederado, Banco Canarias, Banco Provivienda (Banpro) y bolívar Banco. REUTERS/Carlos Garcia Rawlins

algunos indicadores. bajo sendos planes de algunas normativas e recuperación, no obstante inclusive prohibiciones que los bancos estaban siguieron incumpliendo especiales. □

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